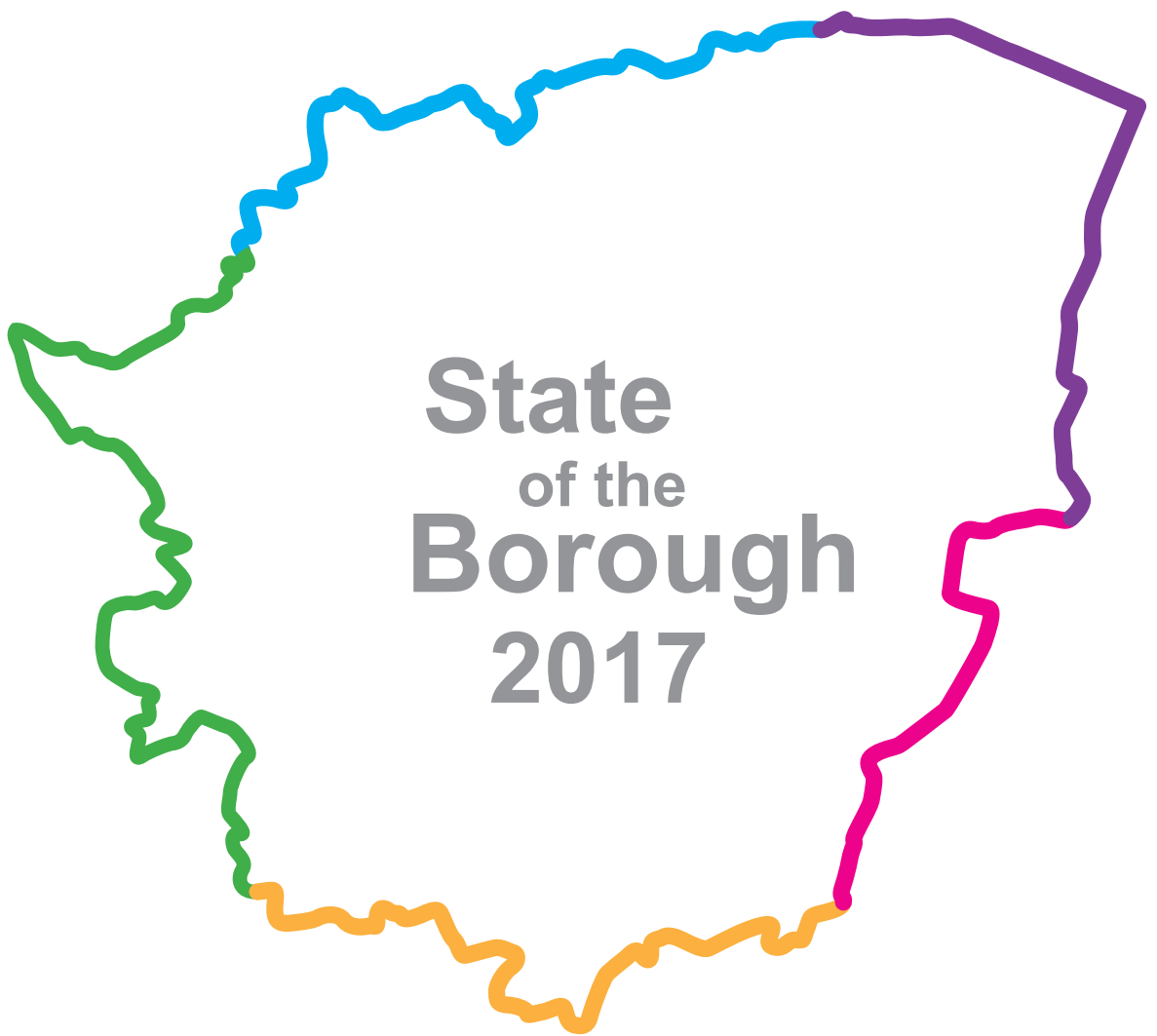


Donor  
resources  
tested



## Foreword from Mayor Ros Jones



**Welcome to Doncaster's State of the Borough Assessment** which improves the ability of the Team Doncaster Strategic Partnership to focus on the improvements that will make the most difference to quality of life in Doncaster. This is the first time that Team Doncaster has produced an overall assessment of quality of life in this way to prompt discussion and debate.

*Ros Jones*

Doncaster Growing Together (DGT) includes a set of concrete plans for now, and big ideas for the future, that are intended to bring out the best in all of us. To be successful, our collective efforts must be grounded in hard data and clear-sighted assessment of the substantial challenges we face and the opportunities that we must grasp.

**The State of the Borough Assessment provides an overview of the quality of life in Doncaster now, how it is changing and how it compares to other similar places. It provides a solid platform upon which Team Doncaster can agree priorities, make the very best of available resources, and assess the difference we are making over time.**

It is intended to stimulate debate and action from anyone who has a stake in Doncaster's future.

A key feature of the Assessment is that it goes beyond presenting the data, to providing case studies of the lived experiences of residents and businesses. It is therefore also an invitation – for everyone who cares about Doncaster's future, to add to our knowledge of the borough and its residents. I reiterate the request in the DGT Prospectus 2017 for local filmmakers, storytellers, artists, photographers or anyone to create the story of Doncaster. This will enable the State of the Borough to improve year on year to become the flagship document of a growing and essential resource for everyone who wants to understand and improve Doncaster as a place to live, learn, care and work.

We hope you find the State of the Borough 2017 an interesting and informative document and can contribute to turning the knowledge and understanding within it into positive action.

**Doncaster's first annual State of the Borough Assessment (SOTB) provides an overall 'picture' of quality of life in the borough across four themes:**

## Learning Working Living Caring

The overall objective of the SOTB is to provide an evidence base for the council and its Team Doncaster partners to develop effective, funded interventions to improve quality of life in the borough.

A key cross-cutting theme which runs throughout this document is Team Doncaster's focus on inclusive growth – which means developing a strong and productive economy which benefits all residents. The indicators included in this document reflect that achieving inclusive growth requires both an economic and social perspective. For example, interventions to support residents to access job opportunities must also consider the interrelationship between work and health and the extent to which local transport arrangements make it easy and affordable to travel to work.

Economic growth that improves living standards for only the few undermines current and future human potential, depresses local spending power and reduces Doncaster's overall competitiveness and potential for growth.

Most of the indicators are presented at a 'whole borough/whole population' level, and therefore do not show the detail of variances across the borough. The purpose of the SOTB is not to describe all things across the borough in great detail – but to prompt discussion, and where necessary, further research and analysis into Doncaster's key challenges and opportunities.

Statistics can of course never provide a faultless assessment of quality of life and every measure contains the caution that it can never be guaranteed to be perfectly accurate depending on the source and method of collection and analysis. For this assessment the most up to date sources of information are used.

The real life case studies in this SOTB provide insights into the experiences of residents and communities.

The SOTB draws upon existing analysis in separate thematic assessments and reports, for example the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment. The key added value of the SOTB is bringing the key points from these assessments together in one document with an accompanying narrative.

The SOTB includes assessments of the gap between Doncaster and other areas, for example how many more residents need to be in work for Doncaster's employment rate to be the same as the Yorkshire & Humberside average.

Similar Authorities benchmarked against in this document are the nearest statistical neighbours calculated by The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy. For Doncaster these are Rotherham, Barnsley, Wakefield, St Helens, Wigan, Stoke-on-Trent, Stockton-on-Tees, Durham, Tameside, Calderdale, Kirklees, Dudley, Darlington, Bolton and Walsall.

Improving quality of life in Doncaster requires the collective efforts of all Team Doncaster partners – across the public, private, voluntary and community sectors. Team Doncaster's quality of life interventions are being brought together in transformation programmes within a four-year plan linked to clear governance arrangements. These programmes will include additional measures of success which are relevant to the specific activities within them.

The first SOTB will be a learning process for Team Doncaster – we will improve it year on year to create an annual report that is the 'go to' document for an overview of quality of life in the borough.

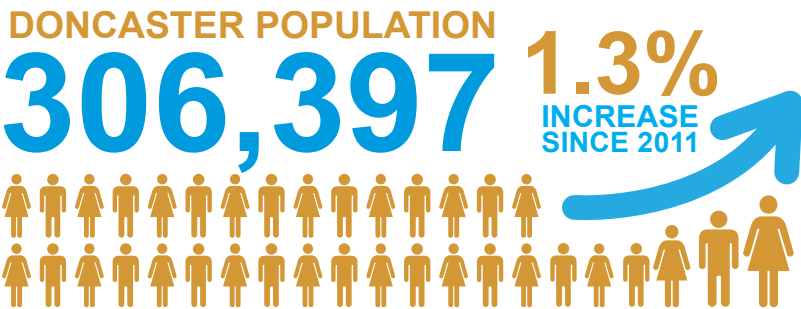
Where there are gaps in data or knowledge, we will work together to develop new insights, guided by Team Doncaster's engagement.



Understanding the population better

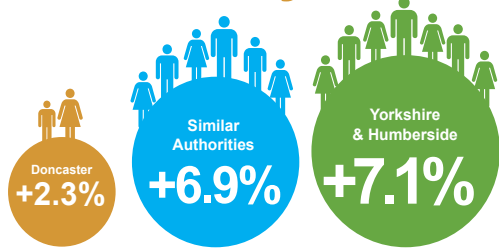
The indicators below provide an insight into the size and profile of Doncaster's population and how it is changing. This matters to Team Doncaster across all the policy themes in this assessment as it plans ahead, for example to ensure it can meet the demand for healthcare, school places, housing and a workforce, to enable local businesses to thrive.

**1. Overall Population**  
Doncaster has a growing population, but projected growth is lower than comparators.



Data Source: Office for National Statistics, Population estimates 2016

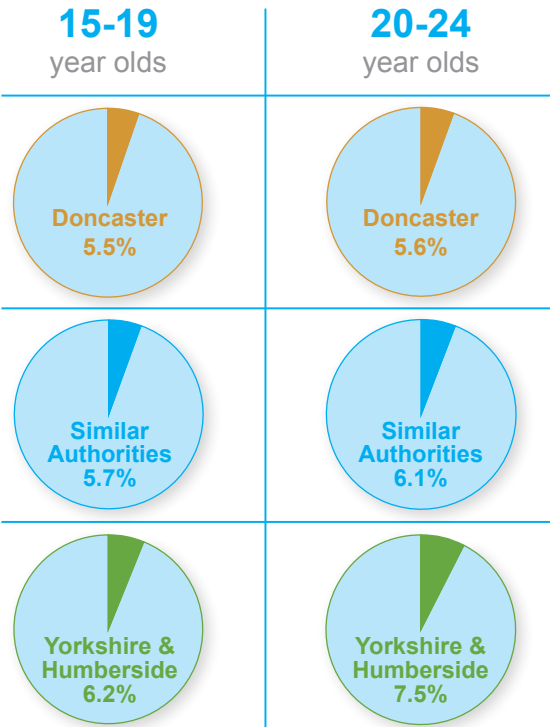
**2. Population Projections**  
**Projected Population Increases by 2039**



Data Source: Office for National Statistics, Population projections 2014-2039

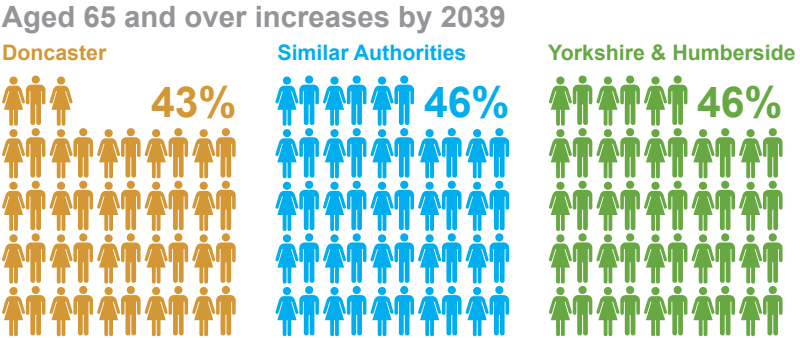
**3. Age Proportion**  
Doncaster has a broadly similar age profile to other areas, apart from a lower percentage of the population being in the 15 to 19 and 20 to 24 age groups.

This has implications for Doncaster's economic activity rates to support economic growth.



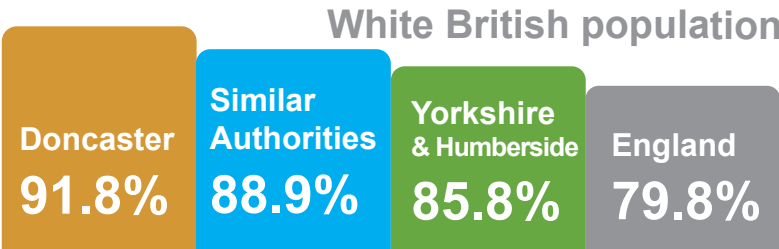
Data Source: Census 2011, Nomis

**4. Older Population**  
The number of people aged 65 and over within Doncaster is due to increase by about 24,500 (43%) from 2016 to 2039. This has implications for a wide range of local services, particularly health and social care services.



Data Source: Office for National Statistics, Population projections 2014-2039

**5. Ethnic Group**  
Understanding the extent of ethnic diversity is important for both shaping policy and service delivery to best meet the needs of a diverse population. 91.8% of Doncaster residents are White British which is higher than comparators. The other two largest groups in Doncaster after this are Other White (3.4%) and Asian (2.5%).



Data Source: Census 2011, Nomis

## 6. Housing Numbers

Doncaster housing numbers have been growing steadily since 2004. In 2016 there were estimated to be 134,200 dwellings, an increase of 10%.

Data Source: 2016 dwelling stock estimates by local authority district: 2001 to 2016, DCLG



## 7. Housing Affordability Ratio

Housing affordability (which combines house prices into a ratio where 10 is the least affordable) is relatively less of an issue for Doncaster. However there are variations across the borough.

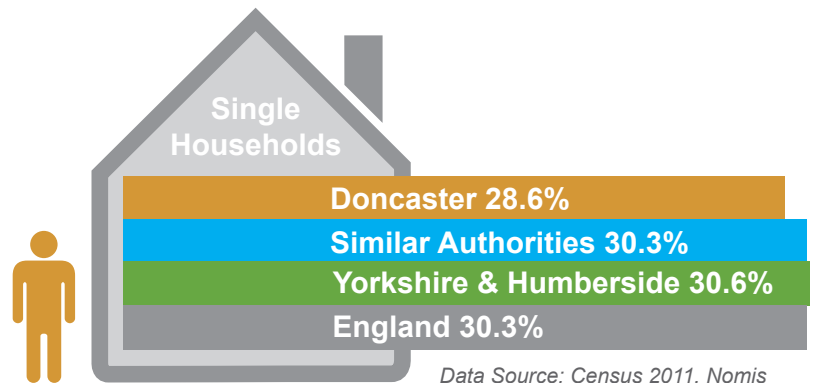
**Doncaster 5.87**  
**National Average 9.82**

Data Source: Housing Affordability Ratio 2011-2016, Centre for Cities

## 8. Household Composition

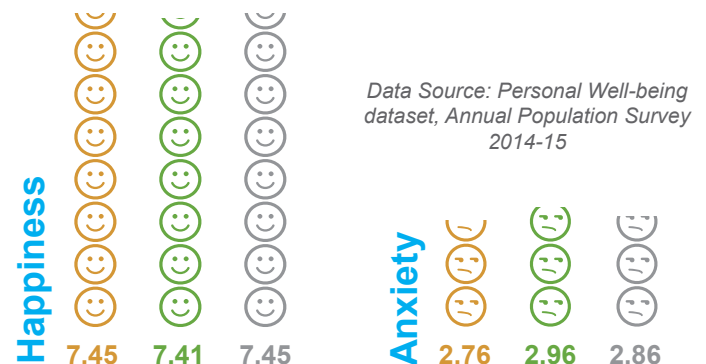
Over a quarter of Doncaster residents live in single households

This suggests a need for more smaller housing units and/or more shared housing options.



## 9. Personal Well-being

Doncaster has the highest happiness rating (7.45 from scale of 0-10) and the lowest anxiety rating (2.76) within South Yorkshire.



## 10.

### Commuter Inflow

Commuter inflow has increased by an average of 555 people from each of the nearby Local Authority Areas.

As of 2011 Doncaster has strong inward and outward commuter ties with places across Yorkshire & Humberside and Lincolnshire. Most of these ties have strengthened since 2001.

Data Source: Location of usual residence and place of work by method of travel to work, Census 2001 and 2011, Nomis

### Commuter Outflow

Commuter outflow has increased by an average of 266 people from each of the nearby Local Authority Areas.

## 11. Social Mobility

Doncaster has low levels of social mobility ranking 301 out of 324 local authorities.

Data Source: English Indices of Deprivation 2015, Department of Communities and Local Government

Levels of deprivation vary significantly across the borough and it has relatively low levels of social mobility.

## Residents have the knowledge and skills for life, creativity and employment

Team Doncaster's vision is for learning that prepares all children, young people and adults for a life that is fulfilling – by studying and exploring the things they are passionate about, in school and beyond, and doing work that is both enjoyable and productive. A key challenge is to support residents of all ages to develop the knowledge and skills needed by local employers, now and in the future as the world of work continues to change due to advances in technology and continued globalisation. This requires a blend of both academic and vocational skills.

### Objectives

- More young people achieve a level 3 qualification by the age of 19
- More young people are ready for school
- More young people do well in their GCSEs
- More people are learning throughout their lives and have the skills to access work

1.

### % of 5 Year Olds with Good Level of Development

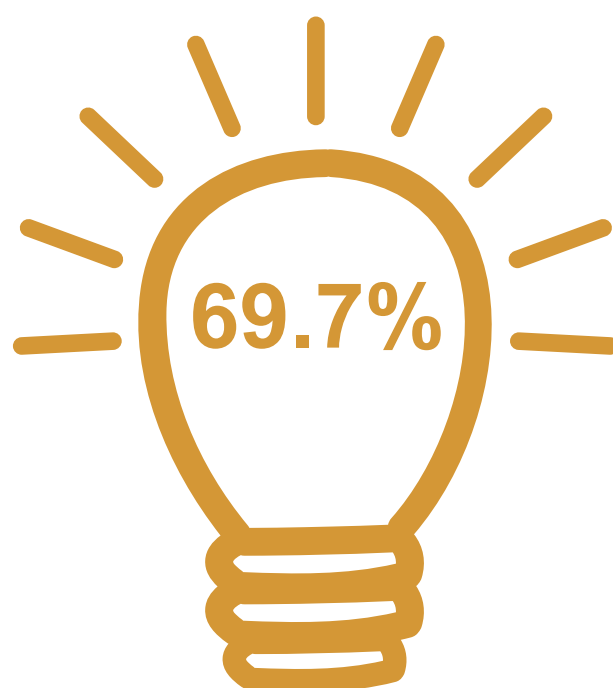
More Doncaster 5 year olds are experiencing a good level of development as a foundation for a fulfilling life. The number of 5 year olds with a good level of development has improved from 50.3% in 2013 to 69.7% in 2016 which is an increase of 1,087 children.

66.3% Similar Authorities

67.4% Yorkshire & Humberside

69.3% England

**Over 69% of 5 year olds in Doncaster have a good level of development**



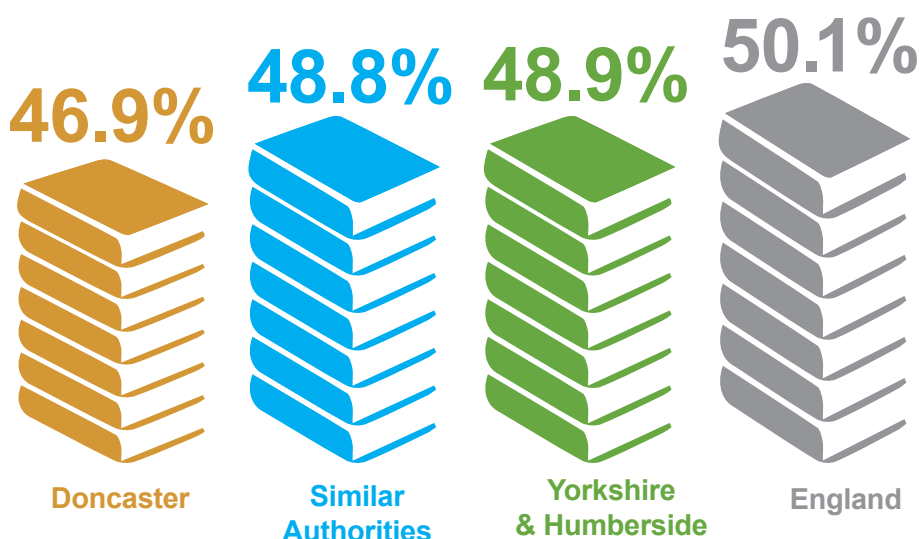
*Data Source: 2016: Early years foundation stage profile attainment by pupil characteristics 2015/16, Department for Education*

2.

### % of Children Achieving 8 good GCSEs

Further progress is needed with GCSE attainment to close the gap with comparators.

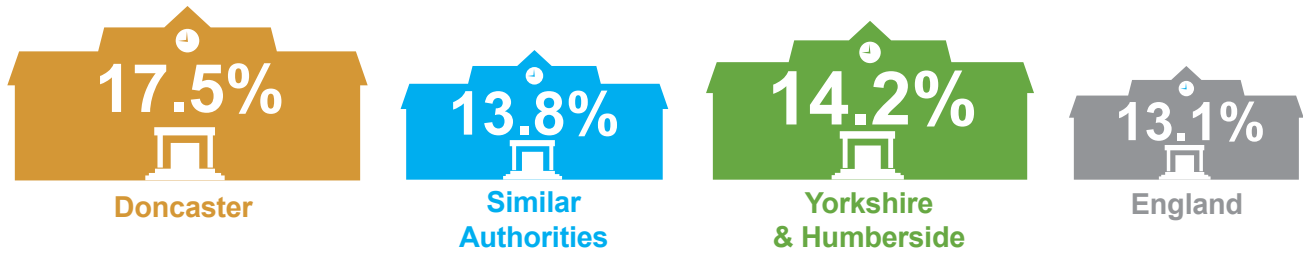
Attainment 8 measures the achievement of pupils across 8 qualifications and Doncaster's score is less than comparators and the national average. This marks the baseline year of a new accountability system for schools.



*Data Source: 2016: GCSE and equivalent attainment by pupil characteristics 2015/16, Department for Education*

3.

## Persistent Absence in Secondary Schools (% Full Year)



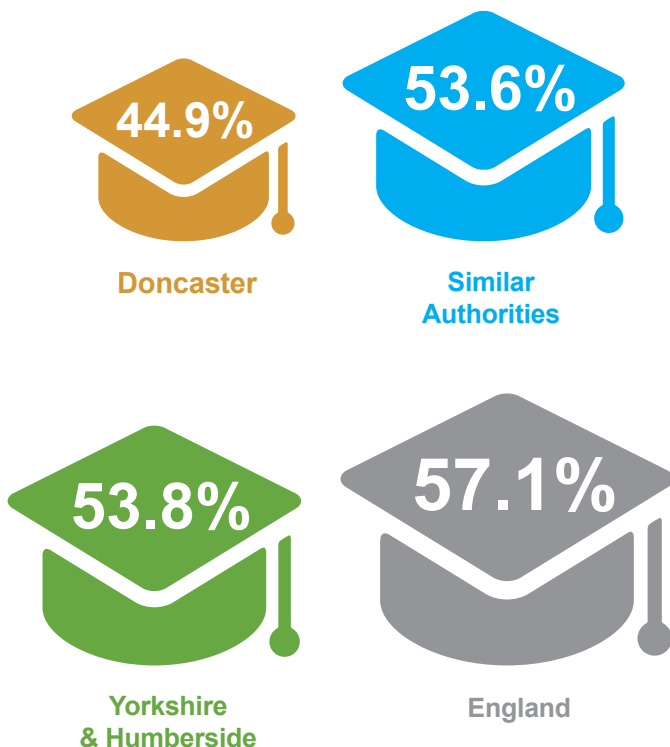
**Persistent absence in secondary schools is relatively high.** The threshold for persistent absence has been altered from around 15% or more of sessions missed down to 10% for 2015/16 academic year. So, this has resulted in a sharp upturn in the rate up to 17.5%. This trend is reflected across all comparator areas including regional and national benchmark figures, however, Doncaster still has a higher figure.

*Data Source: 2016: Pupil Absence in Schools in England 2015/16, Department for Education*

4.

## % of 19 Year Olds who Achieve a Level 3 Qualification

The number of 19 year olds who have achieved a level 3 qualification in Doncaster has reduced from 48% in 2012/13 to 44.9% in 2015/16.



*Data Source: 2016: Level 2 and 3 attainment by young people aged 19 2015/16, Department for Education*

5



## % of People who are Qualified to Level 3 or Above (16 – 64)

The proportion of the working age population with a level 3 qualification or above is lower than regional and national comparators. The number of people who are qualified to level 3 or above in Doncaster has improved from 43% (81,900 people) in 2013 up to 47.2% in 2016 (88,000 people).

**47.7% Similar Authorities**  
**52.3% Yorkshire & Humberside**  
**56.7% England**

*Data Source: 2016: Annual Population Survey 2016, Nomis*

# Case Studies

These case studies provide an insight into community based learning in Doncaster and the work to raise the aspirations of young people and their employability skills.

### ‘Expect Youth’ – Raising Young People’s Aspirations

The Doncaster Youth Alliance, now known as Expect Youth, brings together many existing organisations to provide an exciting new coordinated approach to improving the youth offer across the borough, making Doncaster a safer and better place to live.

The partner organisations already involved include: Club Doncaster Foundation, Doncaster Culture and Leisure Trust, Flying Futures, Active Fusion, Doncaster Council, DARTS, Doncaster Children’s Services Trust – EPIC programme and

Doncaster Chamber. Their mission as a team is to work together to make sustainable improvements to the aspiration, achievement and life skills of young people across Doncaster by making a positive impact on their lives.

Charlotte, a student with the Club Doncaster Foundation is amazed at how her ambitions are finally being realised and after tough times during her A levels she now finds herself looking forward to going to Hull University:

*“All the positive influences around me pushed me to want to achieve more.”*

[www.expectyouth.co.uk](http://www.expectyouth.co.uk)

### Accessing Learning Within Communities

The Adult Family & Community Learning Service engages with a wide range of Doncaster residents who have benefitted from accessing learning within their community. An inclusive space has been created through partnership work with the family hubs and local schools for local residents to use to learn.

Being able to offer qualifications such as basic English and Mathematics has assisted residents in gaining employment and the confidence gained

by achieving a recognised qualification has enabled learners to aspire to better things.

*“I’m where I am now because of Adult Learning. Getting my English qualification made me believe in myself. I started volunteering and now I’ve got a job.”*

**(Doncaster resident)**



## Community-led Learning – Austerfield Study Centre

The hard work of Doncaster Council has made it possible for the total transfer of the educational study centre at Austerfield to a local community/volunteer group, who have formed a not-for-profit company to run the service for at least 10 years with no ongoing cost to the council.

This project is a first for Doncaster and without the support of the volunteers this service would have had to close.

In addition to gaining over £50,000 of funding, the group has actively built and renovated the site, constructing new play areas, painting existing buildings to make the site more family friendly and welcoming, as well as building a bird viewing hide on the reserve. They also have their sights set on the provision of another new classroom in the grounds and new log cabin style accommodation, along with provision of new camping facilities on land jointly managed with the Mosaic Trust.

## Enhancing Future Work Prospects – Doncaster Skills Academy

The Doncaster Skills Academy is a support package available to local schools to help their students develop the right skills and competencies for their future careers.

It includes support from local businesses through initiatives such as mentoring, business visits and internships and consists of a variety of modules covering four key topics:

- **Awareness and aspirations**
- **Employability and work readiness**
- **Enterprise and commerciality**
- **Financial awareness**

The Skills Academy recently held a Careers Fair at Mexborough Academy in support of a Year 6 Transition Day. Pupils from primary schools across the catchment area were able to take part in interactive activities with local businesses and started to gain an early understanding of the modern world of work.

*“The Doncaster Skills Academy is a superb way of developing young peoples’ enthusiasm about the opportunities within the area and developing the ‘work ready’ skills which are attractive to local employers.”*

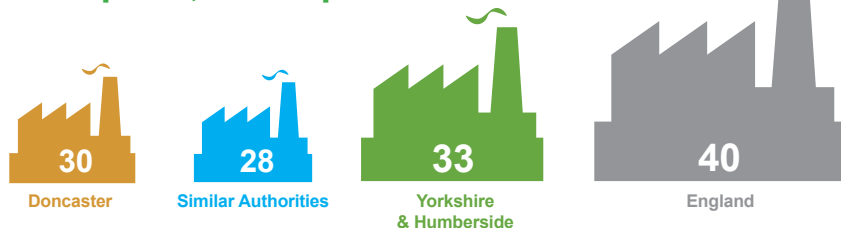
Tony Sykes, Business Development Director, INATIV

# Doncaster | Working

## Residents benefit from a thriving and resilient economy

Team Doncaster's ambition is for an even stronger and more productive economy with more thriving businesses and increases in both the number and quality of jobs available to residents.

### 1. Total Enterprises per 1,000 Population



Data Source: 2016: UK Business Counts 2016, Nomis

Doncaster has made good progress in increasing the number of local businesses and jobs, but more are still required to match the density rates of Yorkshire & Humberside and England.

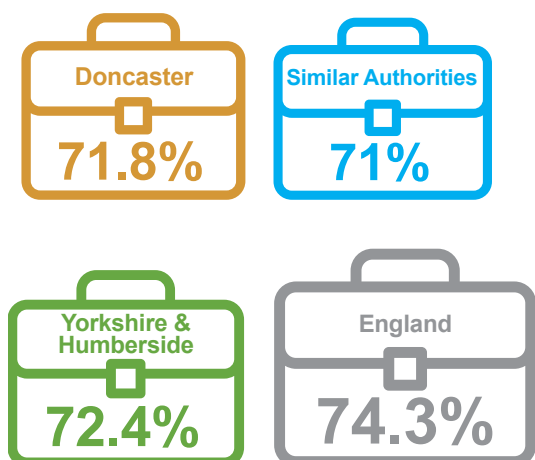
### 2. Number of Jobs in Doncaster

Doncaster has seen a higher growth rate than the average for similar authorities since 2014. However Doncaster has relatively fewer jobs for the size of its working age population.



Data Source: 2015: Business Register and Employment Survey 2015, Nomis

### 3. % of Working Age Population Employed



Doncaster employment rate has recently hit an 11 year high – a positive indicator of inclusive growth.

Data Source: 2016: Annual Population Survey 2016, Nomis

### 4. Exports Per Job

Exports per job for Doncaster are lower than other comparator cities and much lower than the national average. National analysis suggests that firms that export are more likely to experience revenue growth and add employees than firms that don't.



Data Source: 2014: Exports per job 2014, Centre for Cities

## Objectives

- The number of businesses in Doncaster increase and more of them export
- More people are in sustained work
- More jobs are created in the local economy
- More people in Doncaster are completing good quality apprenticeships
- Fewer people are claiming out of work benefits
- More people are employed in good quality jobs
- Wages increase for Doncaster residents
- Doncaster's economy is more productive

## 5. % of Working Age Population Claiming Out of Work Benefits

The number of people claiming out of work benefits in Doncaster has reduced from 15.3% in 2010 to 11.1% in 2016. This equates to 8,450 fewer claimants.

**11.1% Doncaster**  
**10.9% Similar Authorities**  
**9.5% Yorkshire & Humberside**  
**8.1% England**



Data Source: 2016: DWP Benefits 2016, Nomis

## 6. % of People Employed in Directors and Managerial/Professional and Technical Occupations

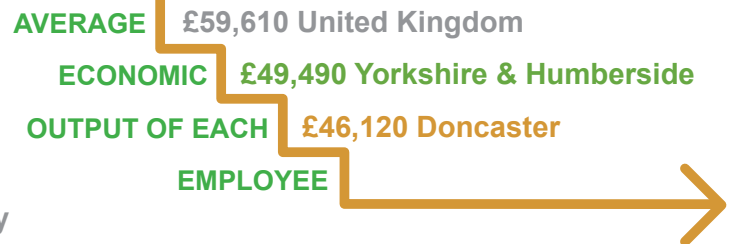


This is 13.4% below the national figure, 8.1% below the regional figure and 5.3% below similar authorities.

Data Source: 2016: Annual Population Survey 2016, Nomis

## 7. Gross Value Added per Worker

This GVA measure of productivity mirrors the regional and national picture, however, productivity in Doncaster is lower than Yorkshire & Humberside and considerably lower than the National figure (by £13,500). This matters because sustained increases in productivity are necessary to support rising wages and incomes.



Data Source: 2014: West Yorkshire Combined Authority/Experian, Yorkshire & Humber Regional Econometric Model 2014

## 8. Median Wage Rate (£/Week)



Data Source: 2016: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2016, Nomis

Doncaster wage rates have only increased marginally over the past 8 years, in part reflecting the low proportion of residents employed in highly skilled, higher paid professions.

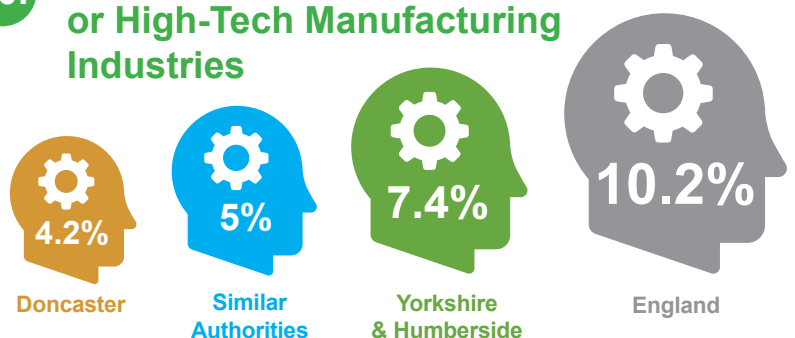
## 9. Apprenticeships Starts per 1,000 Population



**7.0 Doncaster**  
**7.4 Similar Authorities**  
**6.3 Yorkshire & Humberside**  
**5.4 England**

Data Source: 2016: Apprenticeship Starts and Achievements Department for Education 2016

## 10. % Job Knowledge Intensive Services or High-Tech Manufacturing Industries



There is a strong correlation between the presence of knowledge jobs and levels of prosperity in the local population. Ranking of UK cities for knowledge intensive jobs:

Doncaster ranked 57th out of 63

Increasing the quality of jobs available remains a key challenge, which includes increasing the proportion of knowledge intensive/high-tech jobs in our economy.

Data Source: 2015: Business Register and Employment Survey 2015, Nomis

# Case Studies

These case studies provide an insight into the support for local enterprise and work to connect local people to new job opportunities.

### Launchpad Scheme Supporting New Businesses

– Alistair Nightingale

Alistair Nightingale is a Balby-based entrepreneur hoping to navigate his way to a new career running a transport business after securing support from the Launchpad. Run in conjunction with the Doncaster Chamber of Commerce, this new programme provides free support, help and advice to anyone who is thinking of starting their own business or has started trading within the past two years.

Having never run a company before, Alistair contacted Launchpad to take advantage of

the free advice available. He was allocated a business advisor and attended a number of events where he was able to access help to produce a business plan, allowing him to secure finance to purchase his first vehicle.

After securing an exclusive contract covering the Doncaster area he has been able to add a second, larger vehicle to his fleet, he plans to recruit new drivers and is setting his sights on opening a new depot to help grow the business further.

Alistair Nightingale, founder of ANDS Ltd said:

“Although I’ve worked in the industry since leaving the army ten years ago, I never really considered running my own business, but the support I’ve received from Launchpad has helped to give me confidence in my idea and although it’s still relatively early days for me, I’m already looking for new drivers to join the business.”



## Extending its Supply Chain Through ‘Meet the Buyer’

– Derek Lewis

Derek Lewis, specialists in road surfacing and civil engineering have been in Doncaster for more than four decades. Founded in 1973 under the name ‘Derek Lewis Plant Hire’, they established themselves as a supplier of operated plant machinery. In 2009 the business rebranded to become Derek Lewis Ltd and invested hugely in the latest technology with a stronger emphasis on civil engineering but still maintaining their reputation in surfacing works.

With this new emphasis, the business took advantage of ‘Meet the Buyer’ events, hosted by Business Doncaster to provide local businesses the opportunity to gain an understanding of proposed projects in the region. Attending these events has meant Derek Lewis Ltd have been able to place themselves in front of major

contractors and other buyers looking to award significant contracts to local businesses.

Raising their profile and gaining acceptance onto approved supply chain lists with local councils has enabled them to work with large contractors on projects including:

- Doncaster iPort
- High Speed Rail Maintenance Depot
- HS2 Rail College
- Defence Estates
- Hull City of Culture
- IKEA Sheffield

Ian Guy, Business Engagement Officer for Business Doncaster said:

*“The ‘Meet the Buyer’ events allow local businesses to establish valuable connections within the region and better position their business to win future government contracts. We want to ensure these events drive local employment creation, they’re a great way for businesses to make connections with contractors.”*

## Connecting Residents to Jobs – iPort Academy

Logistics is a key growth sector for Doncaster and at over 335 acres in size, the new £500m iPort at Rossington is the UK’s biggest intermodal development.

The iPort presents a great opportunity for local residents to benefit from a significant number of new jobs being created and the accompanying iPort Academy has been introduced to provide Doncaster residents with support in applying for the new jobs.

Doncaster resident, Mark, contacted the iPort Academy for more information about the upcoming developments at the iPort site. The team were able to support him by assessing his CV and help him gain a job at the Amazon Fulfilment Centre at the iPort.

*“Great service! I have been down and had a chat and received some quality feedback and help.”*

# Doncaster | Living

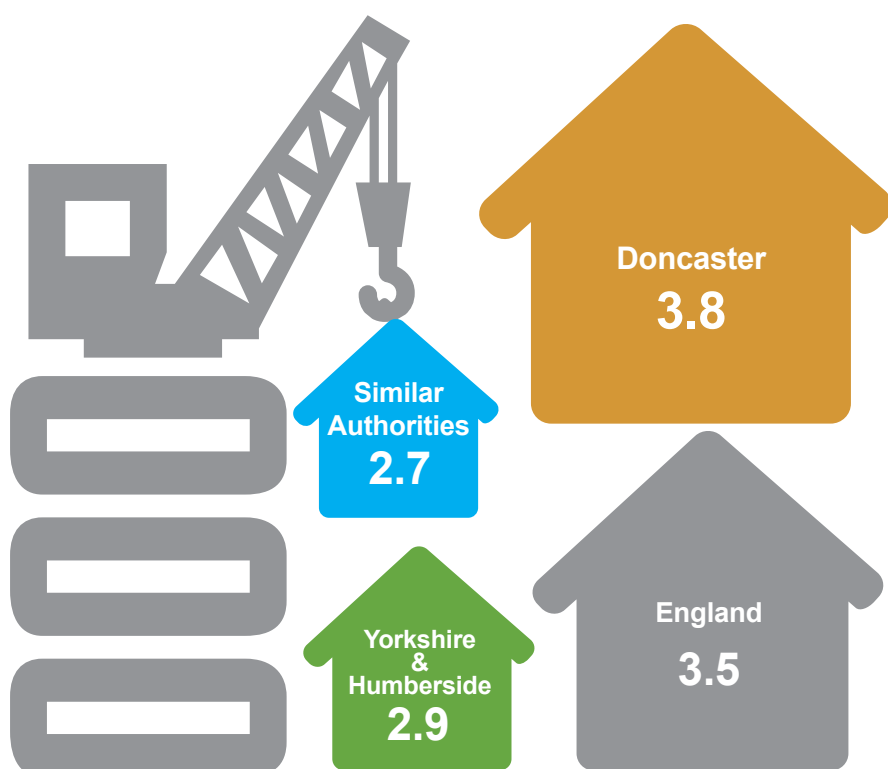
## Doncaster is a modern, thriving and safe place to live, work and visit

Team Doncaster's vision is for Doncaster's people to live in a borough that is vibrant and full of opportunity, where people enjoy spending time.

### Objectives

- There are more homes built and fewer people are homeless or in unsuitable accommodation
- More people are physically active
- More people feel safe in their community
- Healthy life expectancy in Doncaster improves
- People's quality of life is good
- Doncaster's population grows
- Our natural environment is enhanced and protected
- Fewer children in poverty

### 1. Number of Net Additional Homes Built (Per 1,000 Population)



The number of net additional homes built in Doncaster in 2016 was 1,160 which is 3.8 per 1,000 population. This has greatly increased since 2013 and is now higher than the national rate (3.5 per 1,000 population).

Good progress has been made in increasing the houses available in the borough. This is the highest number of homes built in Doncaster in the last 15 years.

Data Source: 2016: Live tables on dwelling stock (including vacants) 2016, Department for Communities and Local Government

### 2. Number of Homeless in Priority Need

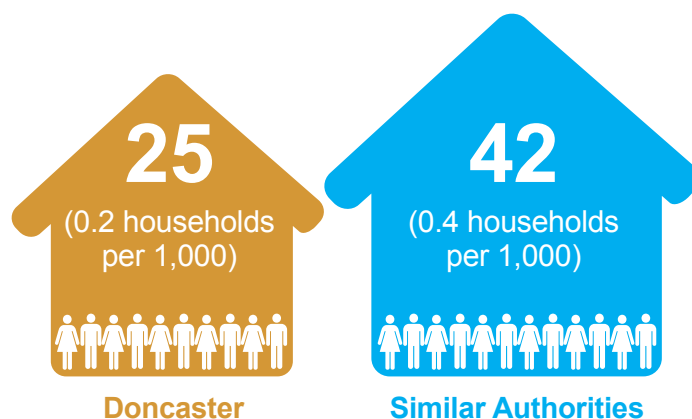
Reducing the number of homeless people in priority need remains a challenge.

During 2016/17 the Doncaster average was greater than similar authorities. There were 276 people (2.1 per 1,000 people) accepted as being homeless. However this is less than the national rate by the equivalent of 54 people.

**276**  
people  
homeless in  
2016/17

Data Source: 2017: Statutory Homelessness Statistical Releases (Quarterly) 2016/17, Department for Communities and Local Government

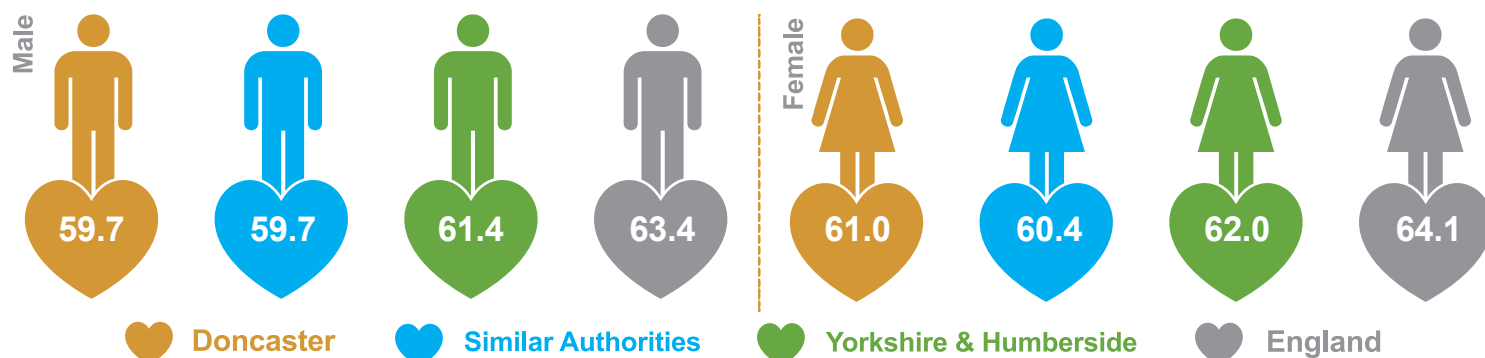
### 3. Number of Households/People in Temporary Accommodation



Data Source: 2017: Statutory Homelessness Statistical Releases (Quarterly) 2016/17, Department for Communities and Local Government

## 4. Healthy Life Expectancy at Birth

Life Expectancy for both males and females is increasing but remains relatively low.



Healthy life expectancy rates have improved for the 2013 – 2015 period. This trend is forecast to continue.

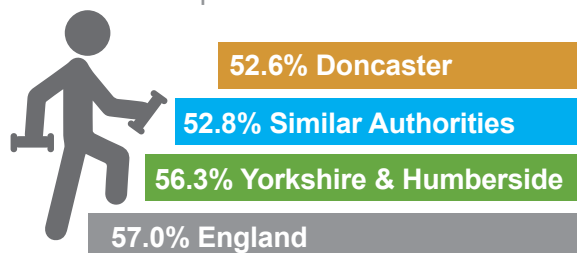
Male Life Expectancy is expected to surpass national average by the 2024 – 2026 period.

Female Life Expectancy is expected to surpass national average by the 2019 – 2021 period.

Data Source: 2015: Public Health Outcomes Framework 2013-2015, Public Health England

## 5. % of Population who Achieve 150 Minutes of Physical Activity per Week

Doncaster's rate has fluctuated over the past few years but is an improvement from 50.9% in 2014.



Data Source: 2015: Public Health Outcomes Framework 2015, Public Health England

## 6. Children Living in Workless Households

The number of children in workless households has reduced significantly, but remains a challenge.



Data Source: 2016: Annual Population Survey 2016, Nomis

Doncaster is now in-line with both comparator authorities and Yorkshire & Humberside. However Doncaster, like many other parts of the UK, is experiencing a squeeze of real incomes – as indicated by the wage rate indicator in the working section.

## 7. Child Poverty

Proportions of children living in low income households remains a challenge.

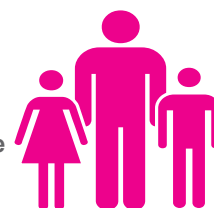
Children in low-income families has increased to 24.1% (16,035 children)

Data Source: 2014: Children in Low-Income Families Local Measure 2014, HM Revenue & Customs

Comparator benchmarks have also seen an increase.

23.5% Similar Authorities  
22.2% Yorkshire & Humberside  
19.9% England

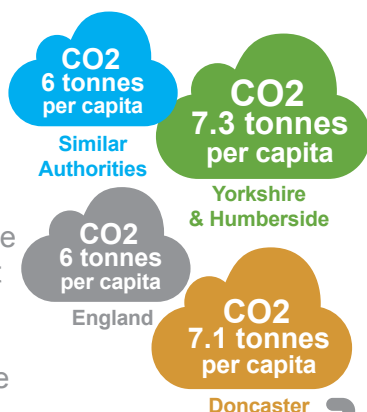
Children in Low-Income Families Local Measure  
Source: HM Revenue & Customs



## 8. CO2 Emissions per Capita (Tonnes)

CO2 emissions are falling, but Doncaster still contributes more than the England average.

Actions to achieve inclusive economic growth aspirations need to also consider the impact on the local and global environment – for example the potential impact of economic growth on the number of cars and lorries using Doncaster's roads and the subsequent CO2 emissions.



Data Source: 2014: Local Authority Carbon Dioxide figures 2014, Department of Energy and Climate Change

Doncaster has reduced CO2 emissions from 9.4 tonnes per capita in 2005 to 7.1 tonnes in 2014

# Case Studies

These case studies provide an insight into community based activity to improve Doncaster as a place to live.

### Darling Buds of Denaby

After attending a vintage tea party run by social enterprise Aspring2 in their community, a small group of women enjoyed it so much they decided they wanted to do something themselves to help reduce social isolation in their neighbourhood. With the support of St Leger Homes and Aspring2, Darling Buds of Denaby was constituted in May 2016 and meets every week. They provide music, games, lunch and friendship to an average of 25 people each week.

The group instituted a saving scheme and members used the funds to take a trip to the seaside. They have linked with Edlington

Community Organisation (ECO) and hosted two slipper swaps, where over 100 pairs of free slippers were given away to help people stay safe at home and reduce the risk of falls. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue have talked to people about being safe at home and how residents can access free home fire safety checks.

Darling Buds of Denaby may appear like a simple group that meets and plays bingo but in fact it is two really driven women who saw a need in their community and were supported to help those around them connect with their community and stay safe.

### Friends of Sandall Park (FOSP)

Friends of Sandall Park is a group of like-minded people dedicated to the improvement of the park for the benefit of its human visitors, birds and resident wildlife.

The group was initially formed by the Communities Service and a small group of four volunteers following complaints about criminal activity and anti-social behaviour in the park. They recognised that things needed to change and put a plan into action to improve the park. FOSP now has over 50 members and to date the group has raised in excess of £500,000 in external funding. This has been used to fund projects such

as the crime reducing golf course, lake edging, woodland adventure, an adventure play area and outdoor classroom and gym. They also undertake essential maintenance to sustain and enhance the park.

**Volunteering is at the heart of everything FOSP does. In one year volunteering hours totaled up at 6,555 hours. They have received numerous awards, including Doncaster in Bloom and the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.**



## Hexthorpe Community Group – Families Outdoor Camping Initiative

Over the last year the Communities Service has supported local volunteers to develop a new initiative designed to give more disadvantaged families and young people at the cusp of anti-social behaviour (ASB) the chance to spend quality, productive and fun family time in an outdoor setting.

The group is in its infancy but is already a social enterprise which has gained a small pot of external funding, enabling them to help families that have been referred to them via the Stronger Families early intervention and prevention work tackling ASB and criminal damage.

The families taking part are encouraged to work together as a family unit, problem solve, undertake basic household type routines, recognise the need to discuss issues, eat well and nurture positive behaviour.

The group is now looking at ways in which it can expand on the project and are actively looking for more volunteers to ensure sustainability.

[www.familiesoutdoors.co.uk](http://www.familiesoutdoors.co.uk)

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## Supporting Communities to do More for Themselves

The council's communities service area team model is structured into geographical areas and aims to help people help themselves. This means developing stronger, more resilient and cohesive communities that are informed about tackling crime, criminal damage and anti-social behaviour; supporting vulnerable victims; helping people to be active both physically and socially; developing community groups and networks; creating a cleaner and better environment; community engagement; community consultation; area

based planning; supporting independence and improving health and well-being; and supporting the Stronger Families programme.

The service aims to bring communities together to do more for themselves and provides a function that focuses on early help and prevention across a number of work streams to help prevent issues from escalating, often requiring costly service interventions.

## Residents live safe, healthy, active and independent lives

Team Doncaster's vision is for a borough that cares together for its most vulnerable, building upon people's existing support networks and the resources that are available in communities.

### Objectives

- Fewer people are delayed from leaving hospital attributable to the NHS and Social Care services
- Fewer people require health and social care services and vulnerable people are safe
- More people remain healthy and independent for longer with fewer people that are socially isolated
- The number of avoidable deaths will reduce

### 1. Average Number of Delayed Transfers of Care From Hospital on a Particular Day Taken Over The Year per 100,000 Population

Delayed transfers of care from hospital are relatively low and reducing.

Doncaster has fallen from 11.7 patients per 100,000 in 2011/12 to 5.1 in 2015/16. This is a stark contrast to comparator areas which have all been steadily rising over this period.



|      |                        |
|------|------------------------|
| 5.1  | Doncaster              |
| 9.8  | Similar Authorities    |
| 10.2 | Yorkshire & Humberside |
| 12.1 | England                |

Data Source: 2016: Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework 2015/16, England, Health and Social Care Information Centre

### 2. Proportion of Children in Need per 10,000 Population

The number of children in need has reduced significantly, bringing the Doncaster rate in line with comparators. This is a measure of all children who are referred to Children's Social Services even if no further action is taken.

**Doncaster had reduced from 654.8 in 2012 down to 345.9 in 2014**

However, this has now gradually risen up to 381.7 in 2015/16 (this equates to 2,490 children).

|       |                        |
|-------|------------------------|
| 381.7 | Doncaster              |
| 388.6 | Similar Authorities    |
| 332.8 | Yorkshire & Humberside |
| 337.7 | England                |



Data Source: 2016: Characteristics of Children in Need in England 2016, Department for Education

### 3. Rate of Permanent Admissions to Residential Care per 100,000 (65+)

Doncaster's figure has reduced from 1,084.6 adults age 65+ per 100,000 in 2014/15 to 890.1 in 2015/16 which equates to 101 fewer people in care aged 65 and over.

|       |                        |
|-------|------------------------|
| 890.1 | Doncaster              |
| 729.6 | Similar Authorities    |
| 699.5 | Yorkshire & Humberside |
| 628.2 | England                |



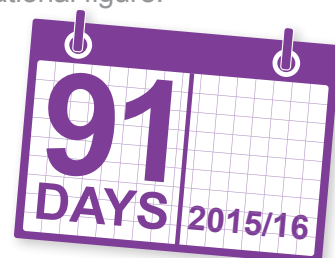
Data Source: 2016: Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework 2015/16, England, Health and Social Care Information Centre

### 4. The Proportion of People Still at Home 91 Days Following Period of Reablement

The rate of permanent admissions to residential care has reduced and the number still at home 91 days following a period of reablement has increased, reflecting positive progress in enabling residents to live independently in their own homes.

Doncaster has experienced significant upturn from 51.4% in 2010/11 up to 81.9% in 2015/16. This is now in line with comparators and the national figure.

|       |                        |
|-------|------------------------|
| 81.9% | Doncaster              |
| 83.2% | Similar Authorities    |
| 82.9% | Yorkshire & Humberside |
| 82.7% | England                |



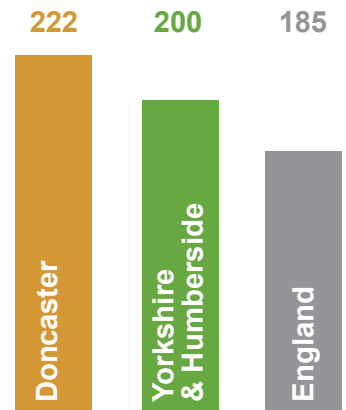
Data Source: 2016: Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework 2015/16, England, Health and Social Care Information Centre

## 5. Avoidable Deaths in Local Population (Mortality Rate Per 100,000)

The rate of avoidable deaths has steadily reduced. These are deaths that could have potentially been avoided using preventative public health interventions. This figure will be influenced by public health issues such as Doncaster having higher than average rates of smoking and obesity.

**Rates have steadily reduced from 249.0 in 2006-08 to 222.3 in 2013-15**

This figure has reduced at a similar rate to the national average.



Data Source: 2015: Public Health Outcomes Framework 2013-2015, Public Health England

## 6. % of Adult Social Care Users who have as Much Social Contact as They Would Like

Doncaster's rate has fluctuated over the last few years from 47.1% in 2010/11 and now stands at 45.7% in 2015/16. This is in line with comparators and the national figure.

**45.7% Doncaster**

**45.7% Similar Authorities**

**46.0% Yorkshire & Humber**

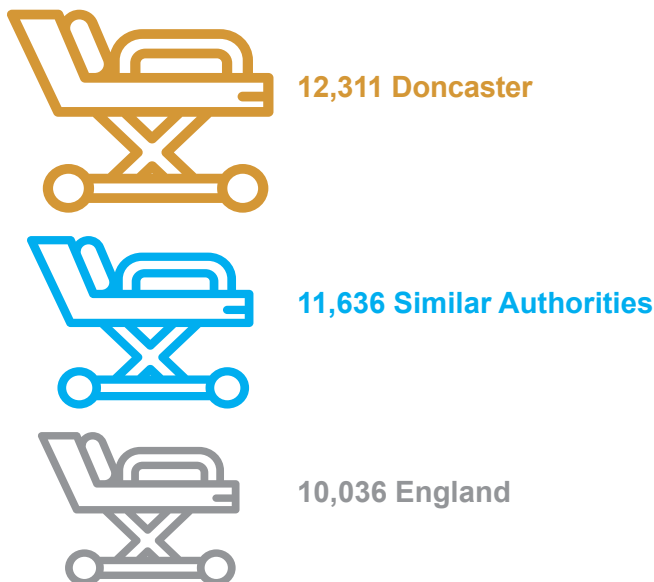
**45.4% England**



Data Source: 2016: Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework 2015/16, England, Health and Social Care Information Centre

## 7. Emergency Admissions to Hospital per 100,000 Population

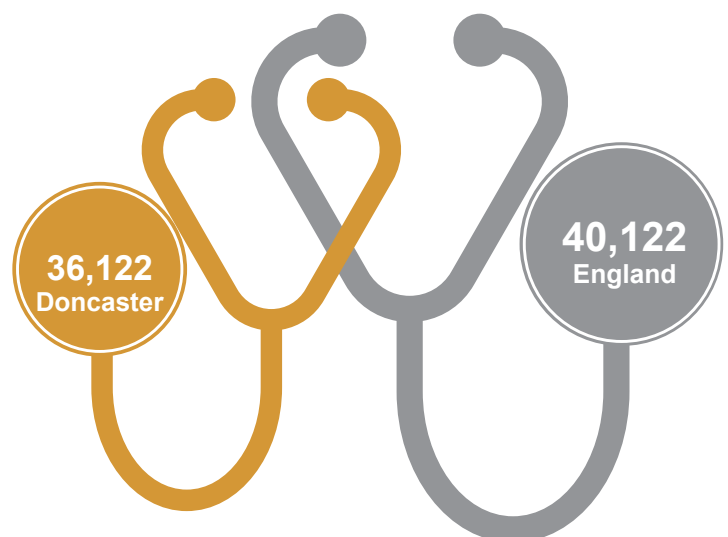
Doncaster's figure remains higher than similar authorities and the national rate despite a drop in 2015/16.



Data Source: 2017: A&E Attendances and Emergency Admissions collection 2016/17, NHS England

## 8. A&E Attendances per 100,000 Population

After a reduction between 2014/15 and 2015/16, Doncaster has experienced a rise in the rate of A&E attendances during 2016/17. However Doncaster's rate remains below the England average.



Data Source: 2017: A&E Attendances and Emergency Admissions collection 2016/17, NHS England

# Case Studies

These case studies provide an insight into the work to support vulnerable adults and families to have a better quality of life.

## Helping Hand to a Better Family Life

The Stronger Families (SF) programme has helped a single dad turn his life around by working with him to find a home, provide financial advice and support and a better outlook on life – which led to him finding a full-time job. The family was having a tough time living in a soon-to-be evicted from home situation, with the dad out of work and in debt with two children to take care of who were missing school. The council's Central Area Team in Adults, Health and Well-being was referred to help via the referral hub.

Through the SF programme and working with the support of the family, the team helped to put the dad on the right track through a referral to the World of Work Programme run by St Leger Homes, boost the children's school attendance to over 90% and work with St Leger Homes to find a new home. The family were helped to get advice with debt issues and an innovation grant helped them carpet their new home and get some leisure passes to get out and about and enjoy family time together. Their fortunes as a family are on the up, so much so the dad has thanked the team for their work saying:

**“They supported me to totally turn my life around.”**



## Having a Cuppa to Help Live With Dementia

Doncaster has a couple of dementia cafes where people living with the condition and their families can get together to chat over a cuppa and support each other. The two volunteer-run cafes in Wheatley and Bessacarr are a first for the borough and came into being after residents, partners and Central Area Teams spotted the need. The two sites are in areas where there is a high number of people living with the condition, they help people remain independent and healthy

for longer and support the large amount of carers within the community.

As well as being great places to meet, the dementia cafes have created an excellent referral pathway for more general well-being support, reducing social isolation alongside early intervention and prevention work linking in with vulnerable victims of anti-social behaviour and also through the Stronger Families agenda.

## Complex Lives Project – Assertive Outreach Team

A new innovative way of working is being developed to support vulnerable adults with complex lives and dependencies.

Although the project is in its infancy, Team Doncaster is looking to put in place one integrated front line team, focused on proactive outreach and engagement with initial support for people to settle in stable accommodation to ensure both financial and social inclusion.

There will be one joint triage, assessment, referral and case management process quickly gathering cross partner information to enable informed judgements about case management, and providing a single system to support case coordination.

They are looking to design the system whereby one empowered key worker with authority to coordinate services and support is allocated to individuals.

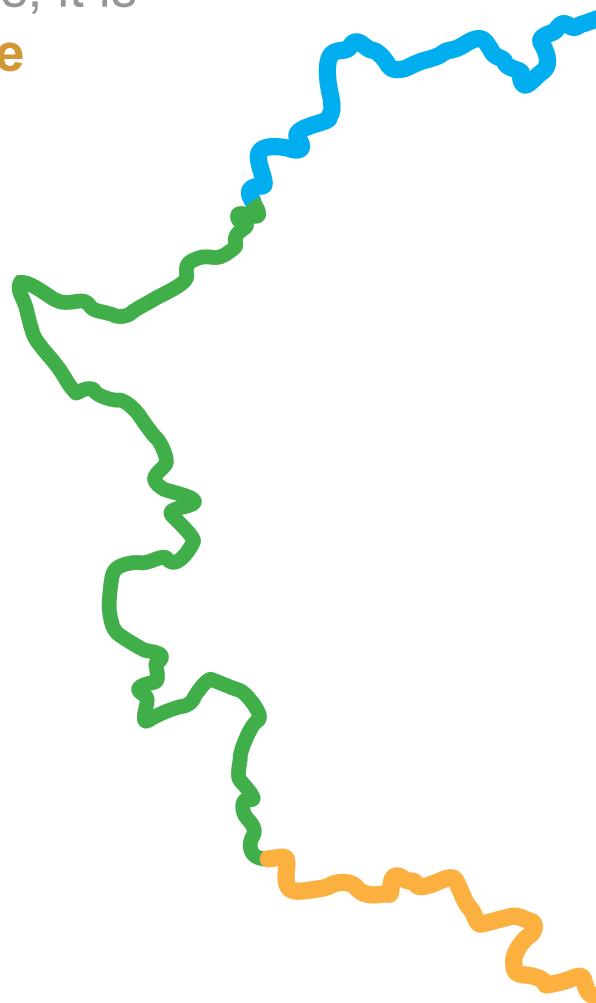
The team will ensure stable, appropriate accommodation offered alongside a range of effective evidence based interventions to support stabilisation and recovery – provided on an assertive Housing First basis.

The team is currently being developed and resources identified, however the council along with partners from South Yorkshire Police, St Leger Homes, Aspire and Riverside are working closely to support and coordinate a small but growing cohort of adults with complex lives and dependencies.

This **State of the Borough Assessment** is a first for Doncaster. Through looking at a simple and concise suite of statistics and stories, it is possible to see **a story of people, place and community.**

The 'state' of a place cannot and should not be told through numbers alone. **What defines Doncaster** is more than metrics – it is the intertwining of communities, histories and futures which **creates a sense of place** and the stories that can be told about this.

What is identified through this report are a number of **amazing successes** at all levels – individual, communities and the whole borough. What shines out of examples and case studies is the **power of resilience within communities** and the strengths forged when public and community services work well together in partnerships.



# Learning Living



### State of the Borough 2017

However, what is clearly also identified through this assessment are a number of socio-economic challenges. **The task is not to shirk away from these challenges** or not include them in this assessment, but it is to understand them, grip them and **tackle them head on**. It is of course not the first time that these issues have been identified nor are they simple socio-economic issues that can be changed overnight. The **‘Doncaster Growing Together’** approach that Team Doncaster is establishing provides a coordinated portfolio of action to address these issues, with a focus on **bringing out the best in all of us**.

What is also clear from the stories within this assessment is that the way to do this is to **embrace and build on community strengths** and for services to work well together in partnership.

Doncaster improves when Doncaster grows and that is why there should be a focus on inclusive growth for the borough. In many ways, an assessment like this prompts more questions than it answers. It can only be a positive thing to prompt and drive an ever increasingly deep and **informed understanding of the opportunities and challenges the people of Doncaster face**.

# Working Caring



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