Regional Advisory Group on Child Poverty in the North East

Child Poverty in the North East Baseline report

March 2010

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Foreword

Child poverty affects many families in the North East. This influences the life chances of our children and consequently the economic wellbeing of this region, and places demands on the public sector. Low income determines every aspect of families' lives and children's development by influencing:

- living conditions
- levels of education
- the capacity to operate as a supportive family
- · community networks
- the stress resulting from the daily struggle to make ends meet.

Poverty wastes talent and opportunity and limits life chances, and this is often perpetuated across generations.

Thirty four per cent of children in the North East live in households with an income defined as below the poverty line. This is unevenly distributed, and in the poorest areas the level rises to 74.5 per cent of children. When times are hard the poor tend to suffer most and the situation has worsened as a result of the recent economic recession. The worrying profile presented by the North East is of significant concern. It is fortunate, that at the time when the recent Child Poverty Act requires Local Authorities and their partners to work on this together, the Regional Advisory Group on Child Poverty is able to circulate a baseline report, which sets both a regional context and will act as a position from which to measure change.

Child poverty levels are an important indicator of the quality of life of children. Reducing child poverty is not simply about lifting children above an arbitrary income line; it is about transforming the experiences, living standards and life chances of disadvantaged families with children, in order to break cycles of poverty that persist across generations. Although the issue is complex, the routes out of poverty are essentially two-fold:

- to increase family income through employment and benefits (primarily the former)
- to intervene to mitigate the effects of growing up in poverty.

The information in this report is an important starting point. Data on income and worklessness are self evident; data on attainment and skills are important not just in terms of describing fitness for future work but also because low aspiration is a key mediator of poverty across generations. Under 18 conceptions are important both as an outcome of poverty and key in transmission across generations. Obesity is an indicator of poor nutrition and of possible future poor health, which is more prevalent in more disadvantaged socio-economic groups.

This report makes uncomfortable reading, but it is important to raise awareness through these figures that will hopefully add determination to our responsibility to tackle this problem effectively.

Murray Rose

Director of Children's Services, Darlington Borough Council Chair, Regional Advisory Group on Child Poverty in the North East

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Introduction

The Regional Advisory Group (RAG) on child poverty in the North East has been set up to tackle one of the most critical areas of concern in the region. By bringing together key stakeholders it plans to raise the profile of work already being done and promote good practice and initiatives that improves the life-chances of children and young people over the short and the long term. The group has been set up as a result of an increasing awareness of the region's performance in this field, with critical indicators of the aspects of children's lives that need to be addressed as a matter of some urgency.

This baseline report has been requested by the RAG to monitor progress in tackling child poverty. It should be seen as a starting point, as no single report could do justice to the complexity of the issues involved. In discussions about the routes out of poverty, there has been a strong focus on worklessness and income deprivation. But the multi-faceted nature of child poverty has to be recognised, with some attempt to measure the impact of different factors on the life-chances of children and young people.

The aim of this report is not to provide a general picture of the prevalence and characteristics of child poverty in the North East - this has been undertaken by Professor Jonathan Bradshaw and is available through our Regional Observatory's web site¹. It is rather is to look at trends in key policy areas over time at a regional level, although for many of the issues related to child poverty, small area analysis is more appropriate. The North East is currently looking at some fairly challenging statistics. This report, as well as providing comprehensive background data, will be updated regularly to see if progress is being made to improve the quality of life of children and young people. It will also serve as a way of indicating where further research or investigation is required, when trends are going in the wrong direction or where good practice can be illustrated. As stated above, it can only be a starting point for understanding the processes that can influence future outcomes.

The indicators chosen do not represent all the critical policy areas, but give a strong indication of direction of travel in the region. They come under three broad themes and have been chosen as areas where most concern has been shown:

- income and worklessness
- attainment and skills
- health

The indicators chosen are limited but not arbitrary. They headline poor performance and indicate where further drilling down is both possible and desirable. It is the firm intention that monitoring progress through these means will be a catalyst for developing policies that will have a lasting beneficial effect on children and young people in the North East of England.

Income and worklessness

Family income is a central measure in estimating child poverty, and work has long been recognised as a key route out of poverty. The following indicators give a clear picture of the region's position and also enable policy makers to look at small area developments and change over time. Drilling down into different neighbourhoods and analysing their special characteristics will be essential for designing appropriate policy initiatives.

Children living in households below average income

This indicator is particularly relevant as it tracks progress against the joint Department of Work and Pensions/HM Treasury PSA target, which is to:

Halve the number of children in relative low-income households between 1998-99 and 2010-11, on the way to eradicating child poverty by 2020.

The chart below shows the considerable progress that has been made at both a national and regional level. In 2007/08 in the North East the proportion of children at risk of living in a household 60 per cent below contemporary median in 2005/06 - 2007/08 was **33 per cent** (165,000) after housing costs (AHC) are taken into account AHC.

This represents no change from the previous year but shows the rate of progress has slowed down and may have reversed. Latest figures are beginning to show the impact of the recession. The North East, customarily lying behind London after housing costs are taken into consideration, is now behind the North West and the West Midlands as well as London.

Children - risk of living in households with less than 60 per cent contemporary (relative) median household income (AHC) 45 40 35 30 of children 25 20 15 10 GOWM -— GOE 5 GOSE GOSW 0 94/95-95/96-96/97-97/98-98/99-99/00-00/01-01/02-02/03-03/04-04/05-05/06-03/04 96/97 97/98 98/99 99/00 00/01 01/02 02/03 04/05 05/06 06/07 07/08

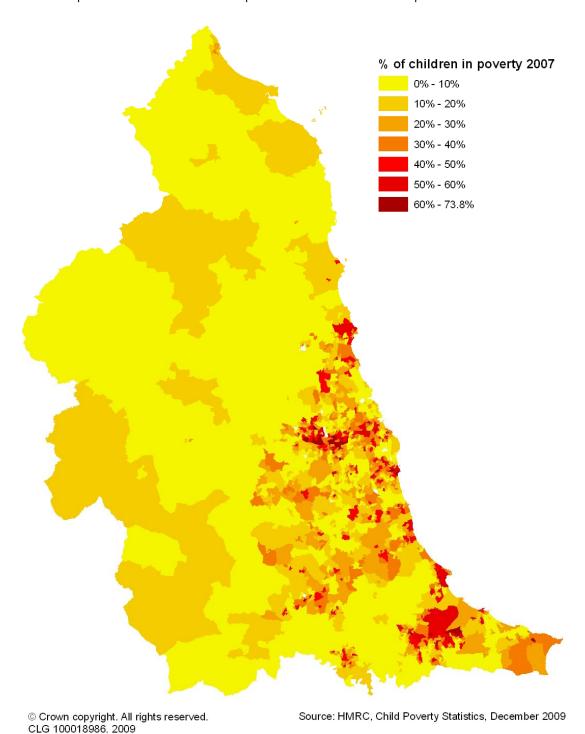
Figure 1

Source: DWP, Households Below Average Income (HBAI), May 2009

The HBAI statistical report is based on estimates taken from the Family Resources Survey (FRS) and drawn from a sample of private households in the UK. At a regional level there is a sizeable margin of error and no reliable way of drilling down into smaller geographical areas. This is not the case with NI 116, which takes into account both children living in workless households and those living in low-income households.

Figure 2 NI 116 - Proportion of Children in Poverty

Definition: The proportion of children living in families in receipt of out of work benefits or in receipt of tax credits where their reported income is less than 60 per cent of median income



NI 116 Proportion of children in poverty

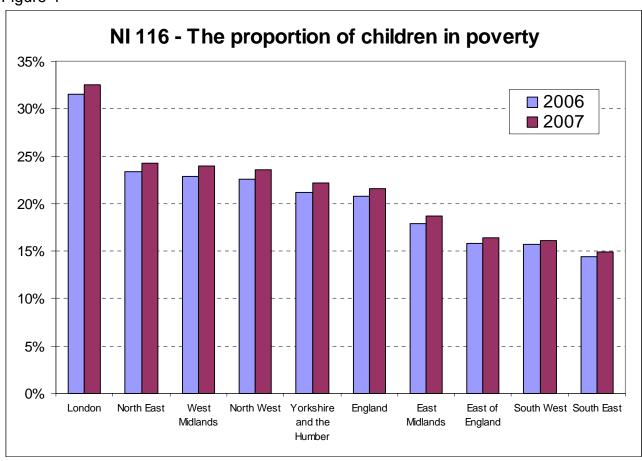
Figures 3 and 4 also show the closeness in performance of the Northern and West Midlands regions as well as the increasing proportions of children in poverty. It is important, however, to note the distribution of these households throughout the region. The map (Fig 2) showing the distribution of the worst affected areas shows a clear pattern around the conurbations and the old mining and manufacturing areas.

Figure 3

	2006	2007
London	31.5%	32.5%
North East	23.4%	24.3%
West Midlands	22.9%	24.0%
North West	22.6%	23.6%
Yorkshire and the Humber	21.2%	22.2%
England	20.8%	21.6%
East Midlands	17.9%	18.7%
East of England	15.8%	16.4%
South West	15.7%	16.1%
South East	14.4%	14.9%

Source: HMRC, Child Poverty Statistics, December 2009

Figure 4



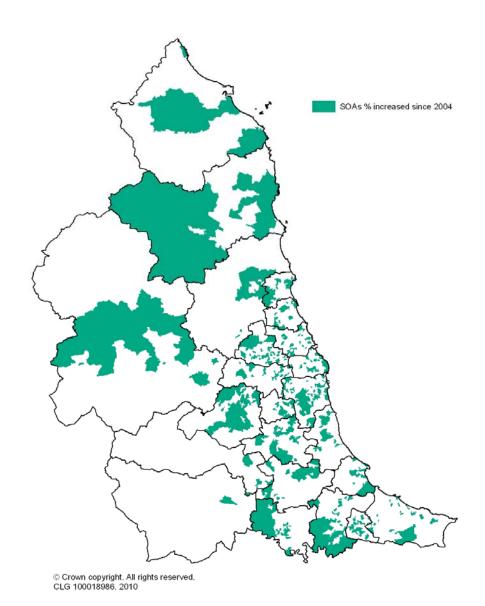
Source: HMRC, Child Poverty Statistics, December 2009

Further work on this data would look in more detail at these critical areas, particularly in relation to whether they are improving or getting worse. Until the onset of the recession, the trend had been to see improvements across the majority of areas, but it is clear that there are considerable differences in performance across the region. This is one of the reasons that it is essential to use small area geographies. A recent evaluation of New Deal for Communities (NDC) areas² has pointed out that studies of wide areas can hide within-area trends. In designing programmes to tackle child poverty, it will be necessary to identify the differences that apply to these areas. The Regional Observatory (NERIP) has commissioned researchers at Glasgow University to design a typology of deprivation³ that could help target the appropriate form of programme. The report sets out the main factors that characterise an area of deprivation and the kind of initiatives that are most likely to succeed. This underlines the fact that a "one size fits all" cannot be the most productive approach.

It is only with informed local analysis that the region can tackle some of the consistently poor performing areas. Figure 5 illustrates that, even over a period which has seen general improvement for the majority of the region and other deprived areas, some areas have worsening performance. Monitoring these small areas will give some indication of the ability to target these critical areas.

Small areas getting worse over time (Children in households dependent on out of work benefits)

Figure 5



The Glasgow University report highlights the different characteristics of deprived areas. It is worth illustrating how concentrated some small areas of deprivation can be. As an example, Figure 6 shows the proportion of children in workless families in the worst performing ten LSOAs (Lower Super Output Areas - an official statistical unit) in the region

Figure 6

LSOA	Ward	Local authority	Rate
E01008291	Benwell	Newcastle upon Tyne	75.0%
E01008214	Felling	Gateshead	73.8%
E01008380	Kenton	Newcastle upon Tyne	73.5%
E01008305	Byker	Newcastle upon Tyne	72.1%
E01012252	Newtown	Stockton on Tees	71.4%
E01008304	Byker	Newcastle upon Tyne	70.3%
E01008485	Chirton	North Tyneside	69.9%
E01012090	Thorntree	Middlesbrough	69.8%
E01008399	Moorside	Newcastle upon Tyne	68.6%
E01012114	Grangetown	Redcar and Cleveland	68.6%

Source: DWP: The Number of Children living in Out-of-Work Benefit Households at May 2008

NI 151 Overall employment rate

An area of concern for the North East is the level of employment. Although it has been improving since the 1990s, the region still lags behind the rest of the country and is nearly 10 percentage points behind the two best performing regions.

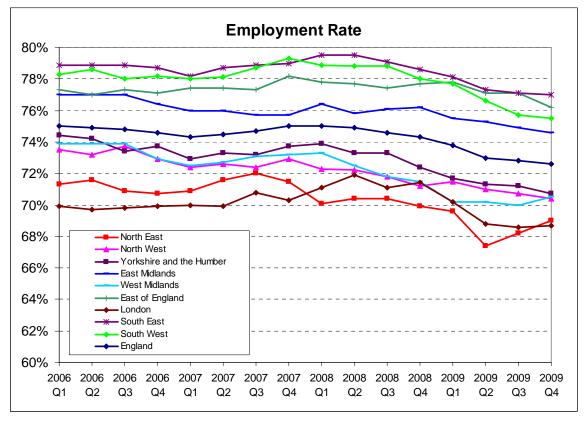
Figure 7

	2008 Q4	2009 Q1	2009 Q2	2009 Q3	2009 Q4
North East	69.9%	69.6%	67.4%	68.2%	69.0%
North West	71.2%	71.5%	71.0%	70.7%	70.4%
Yorkshire and the Humber	72.4%	71.7%	71.3%	71.2%	70.7%
East Midlands	76.2%	75.5%	75.3%	74.9%	74.6%
West Midlands	71.5%	70.2%	70.2%	70.0%	70.5%
East of England	77.7%	77.8%	77.1%	77.1%	76.2%
London	71.4%	70.2%	68.8%	68.6%	68.7%
South East	78.6%	78.1%	77.3%	77.1%	77.0%
South West	78.0%	77.7%	76.6%	75.7%	75.5%
England	74.3%	73.8%	73.0%	72.8%	72.6%

Source: ONS, Regional Labour Market Summary

At a local authority level, five authorities have employment rates of less than 70 per cent - Newcastle upon Tyne (62.8 per cent), Hartlepool (63.3 per cent), Middlesbrough (65.6 per cent), Redcar and Cleveland (65.8 per cent) and South Tyneside (67.5 per cent)

Figure 8

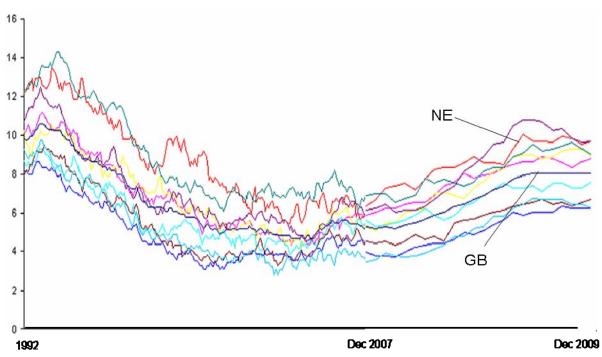


Source: ONS, Regional Labour Market Summary

Overall unemployment rate

Figure 9

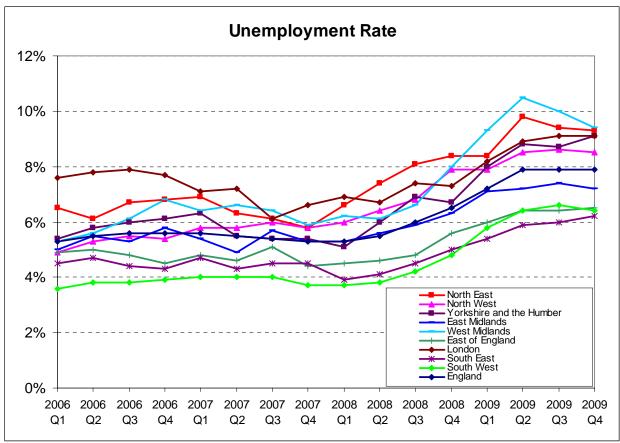
Regional Unemployment Rate 1992 - 2009



Source: ONS, Regional Labour Market Summary

Figure 9 shows again how much has been achieved in reducing unemployment in the region. There is some evidence to show that the decrease before the current downturn was greater in the North East than elsewhere. It remains, however, that the North East continues to have one of the worst rates of unemployment. It will continue to be an area of concern as the impact of reductions in the workforce in the aftermath of the recession takes effect. Since employment is one of the principal routes out of poverty, it is a critical indicator of how difficult tackling child poverty is going to be.

Figure 10



Source: ONS, Regional Labour Market Summary

As might reasonably be expected, some authorities and areas have greater problems than others and will need a greater focus of activity.

Figure 11

Authority rank	Authority %	unemployed
7	Newcastle upon Tyne	12.2%
9	Hartlepool	11.3%
18	Stockton-on-Tees	10.1%
22	Redcar and Cleveland	9.7%
29	County Durham	9.4%
32	Middlesbrough	9.3%
33	Sunderland	9.3%
53	Gateshead	8.3%
54	South Tyneside	8.3%
57	North Tyneside	8.2%
77	Darlington	7.3%
107	Northumberland	6.1%
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Source: Annual Population Survey, July 2008 to June 2009

Attainment and skills

In measuring child poverty it is important to choose a range of indicators that reflects the wider nature of the issues and areas where interventions may be most needed or successful. It is recognised that in measures of attainment, the North East, although improving its results has had problems in narrowing the gap with other regions, particularly after Key Stage 3. Local information will again be important to tackle specific issues and areas where performance is particularly lagging behind.

NI 78 Achievement of 5 or more A^* - C grades at GCSE and equivalent, including Maths and English

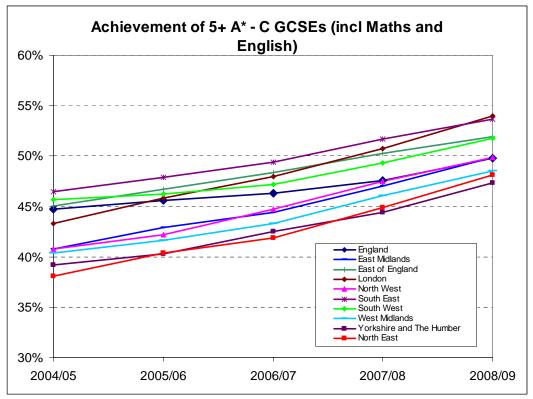
Attainment is another area in which much has been gained by many authorities over the years. One particular field has been the percentage of pupils gaining 5 or more A* - C at GCSE, where the North East has risen from one of the worst performing regions to one of the best. This has not been repeated when English and Maths is included and, as the following figures illustrate, the North East struggles to move away from being one of the worst performing regions.

Figure 12

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
England	44.7%	45.6%	46.3%	47.6%	49.8%
East Midlands	40.8%	42.9%	44.4%	47.0%	49.9%
East of England	45.0%	46.7%	48.4%	50.3%	51.9%
London	43.3%	45.8%	48.0%	50.7%	54.0%
North East	38.1%	40.4%	41.9%	44.9%	48.1%
North West	40.8%	42.2%	44.7%	47.5%	49.9%
South East	46.5%	47.9%	49.4%	51.7%	53.7%
South West	45.7%	46.2%	47.2%	49.3%	51.8%
West Midlands	40.4%	41.6%	43.3%	46.1%	48.5%
Yorkshire and The					
Humber	39.2%	40.3%	42.5%	44.4%	47.3%

Source: DCSF, GCSE & Equivalent Results in England 2008/09, January 2010

Figure 13



Source: DCSF, GCSE & Equivalent Results in England 2008/09, January 2010

There are clearly disparities within the region and it is worth noting that the percentage of pupils achieving this target ranges from just under 37 per cent in Middlesbrough (the joint second worst figures in the country) to just over 56 per cent in North Tyneside (Fig. 12). Again, many authorities are looking at some of these issues in detail and tackling specific concerns, for example, poor attainment by boys in some areas.

Figure 14

Middlesbrough	36.9%
Newcastle upon Tyne	41.9%
Sunderland	45.1%
South Tyneside	47.7%
Hartlepool	48.5%
Redcar and Cleveland	48.5%
County Durham	48.7%
Stockton-on-Tees	49.3%
Darlington	51.6%
Northumberland	51.9%
Gateshead	52.3%
North Tyneside	53.6%
	10 B 10 B

Source: DCSF, GCSE & Equivalent Results in England 2008/09, January 2010

NI 117 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education employment or training (NEET)

The North East has seen a small improvement in the most recent figures. But as it is by some way still the worst performing region in the country, there is more work needed to build on some encouraging initiatives.

Figure 15

	2005	2006	2007	2008
England	8.2%	7.7%	6.7%	6.7%
East Midlands	7.0%	6.4%	5.6%	5.4%
East of England	7.0%	6.8%	5.8%	6.2%
London	8.0%	7.5%	6.4%	5.8%
North East	12.0%	11.4%	10.0%	9.8%
North West	9.0%	8.9%	7.9%	7.8%
South East	6.0%	5.6%	5.3%	5.7%
South West	6.0%	6.0%	5.5%	5.7%
West Midlands	10.0%	8.9%	7.1%	7.0%
Yorkshire and The Humber	10.0%	9.3%	8.2%	7.9%

Source: CLG, Floor Targets Interactive

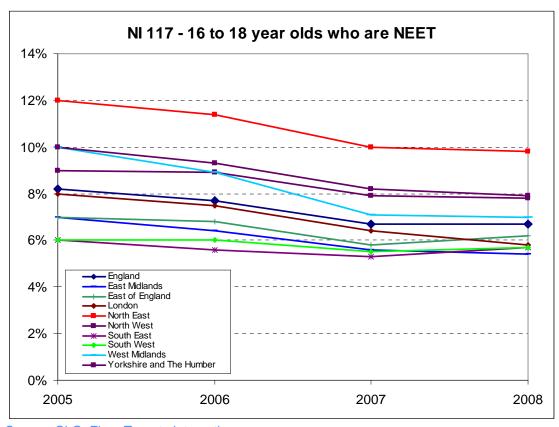
Figure 16

Sunderland	13.2%
Redcar & Cleveland	12.0%
County Durham	10.8%
Middlesbrough	10.5%
Stockton-on-Tees	10.5%
Gateshead	10.2%
South Tyneside	10.2%
North Tyneside	9.0%
Newcastle upon Tyne	8.5%
Hartlepool	7.9%
Darlington	6.9%
Northumberland	6.3%
On the Old Floor Towns to Indiana	

The regional figures mask some disparities between authorities and there are some areas where problems are more acute.

Source: CLG, Floor Targets Interactive

Figure 17



Source: CLG, Floor Targets Interactive

NI 163 Working age population qualified to at least Level 2 or higher

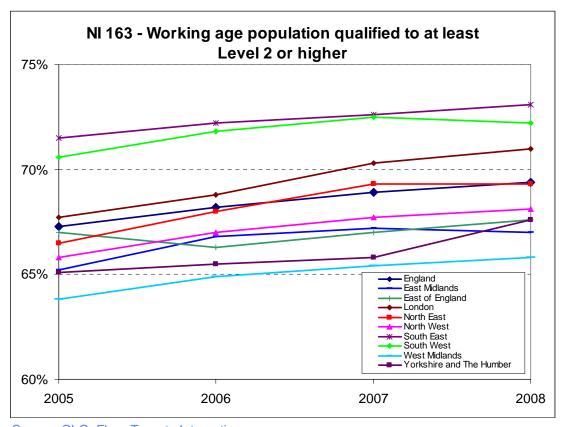
The regional picture on this indicator as shown in Figures 18 and 19 does not appear as poor as many others but, again, attention needs to be directed to smaller areas. Whereas some of the old districts have rates of up to 80 per cent (Durham City being the highest at 78.5 per cent). At the other end of the scale former districts such as Easington and Sedgefield have only just over 60 per cent.

Figure 18

	2005	2006	2007	2008
England	67.3%	68.2%	68.9%	69.4%
East Midlands	65.2%	66.8%	67.2%	67.0%
East of England	67.0%	66.3%	67.0%	67.6%
London	67.7%	68.8%	70.3%	71.0%
North East	66.5%	68.0%	69.3%	69.3%
North West	65.8%	67.0%	67.7%	68.1%
South East	71.5%	72.2%	72.6%	73.1%
South West	70.6%	71.8%	72.5%	72.2%
West Midlands	63.8%	64.9%	65.4%	65.8%
Yorkshire and The Humber	65.1%	65.5%	65.8%	67.6%

Source: CLG, Floor Targets Interactive

Figure 19



Source: CLG, Floor Targets Interactive

Health

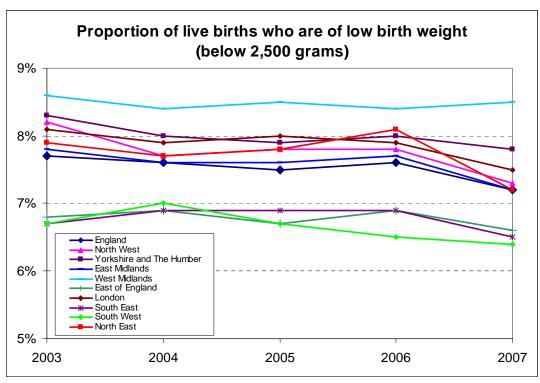
Child poverty is a fundamental cause of health inequalities. Good physical and mental health is not only essential to securing improved outcomes for children but also a factor which influences people's ability to enter employment. It is difficult in a report of this nature to provide a comprehensive set of indicators that would cover all the issues that need to be addressed. As stated above, a greater range of data sets is available through the NERIP website and other sources. The indicators below have been chosen as critical areas where the region, or localities within it, is performing badly. Monitoring each of them will give an indication of progress and potential for further investigation and analysis.

Proportion of births that are of low birthweight

Figure 20

Low birthweight					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
England	7.7%	7.6%	7.5%	7.6%	7.2%
North East	7.9%	7.7%	7.8%	8.1%	7.2%
North West	8.2%	7.7%	7.8%	7.8%	7.3%
Yorkshire and The					
Humber	8.3%	8.0%	7.9%	8.0%	7.8%
East Midlands	7.8%	7.6%	7.6%	7.7%	7.2%
West Midlands	8.6%	8.4%	8.5%	8.4%	8.5%
East of England	6.8%	6.9%	6.7%	6.9%	6.6%
London	8.1%	7.9%	8.0%	7.9%	7.5%
South East	6.7%	6.9%	6.9%	6.9%	6.5%
South West	6.7%	7.0%	6.7%	6.5%	6.4%
Source: ONS, Low Birthweight Li	ve Births,	2007			

Figure 21



Source: ONS, Low Birthweight Live Births, 2007

There is a strong correlation between low birth weight and poverty. Low birth weight is also an indicator of poor future outcomes. Although the region does not have the worst figures overall, there are localities where the data indicates some strong concerns - Middlesbrough, for example, having one of the highest rates in the country.

Figure 22

Middlesbrough	9.1%
Sunderland	8.0%
Redcar and Cleveland	7.9%
Gateshead	7.8%
Hartlepool	7.6%
Stockton-on-Tees	7.5%
Newcastle upon Tyne	7.2%
North Tyneside	6.8%
South Tyneside	6.6%
Durham	6.5%
Northumberland	6.5%
Darlington	5.1%

Source: ONS, Low Birthweight Live Births, 2007

NI 55 Obesity amongst primary school children in reception year

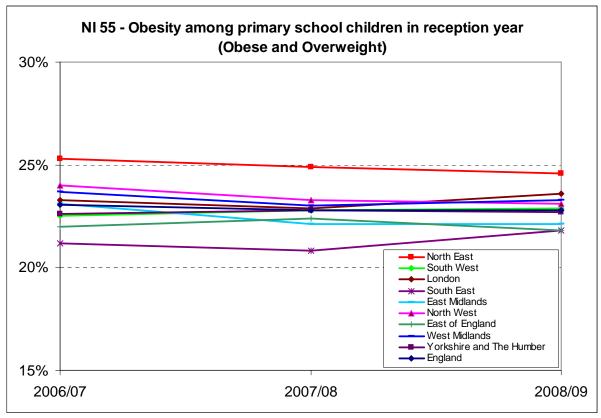
Obesity and being overweight are issues for the adult and child population, but targeting children and young people will clearly have an impact on their development. As Figure 25 illustrates, there are some areas which have a substantial task in tackling the high percentages of children who are overweight or obese.

Figure 23

	Overweight and Obese		
	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
North East	25.3%	24.9%	24.6%
South West	22.5%	22.8%	22.9%
London	23.3%	22.9%	23.6%
South East	21.2%	20.8%	21.8%
East Midlands	23.1%	22.1%	22.1%
North West	24.0%	23.3%	23.1%
East of England	22.0%	22.4%	21.8%
West Midlands	23.7%	23.0%	23.3%
Yorkshire and The Humber	22.6%	22.8%	22.7%
England	23.1%	22.8%	22.8%

Source: National Child Measurement Programme, England, December 2009

Figure 24



Source: National Child Measurement Programme, England, December 2009

Figure 25

Hartlepool	28.2%
Newcastle upon Tyne	27.5%
Redcar and Cleveland	25.4%
Northumberland	24.8%
Sunderland	24.8%
Middlesbrough	24.7%
Stockton-on-Tees	24.5%
North Tyneside	24.4%
Darlington	24.0%
County Durham	23.8%
South Tyneside	22.2%
Gateshead	22.0%

Source: National Child Measurement Programme, England, December 2009

The former districts of Wansbeck and Blyth Valley in South East Northumberland and Sedgefield and Easington in County Durham have high rates of child obesity.

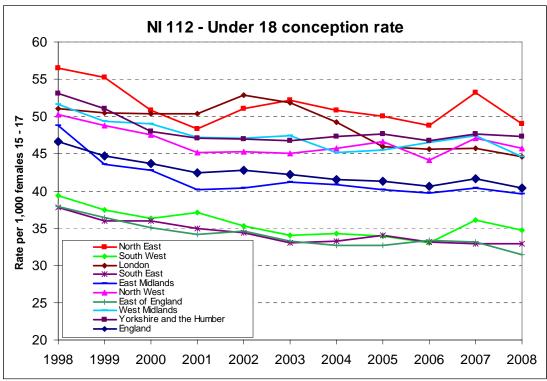
NI 112 Under 18 conception rate

As with NEETs, latest figures show some improvement in regional performance, but the North East continues, if only marginally, to have the worst rates in the country.

Figure 26	Rate per	1,000 fem	nales 15 -	17				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
England	42.5	42.7	42.2	41.6	41.3	40.6	41.7	40.4
North East	48.3	51.1	52.2	50.8	50.0	48.8	53.2	49.0
North West	45.1	45.3	45.1	45.7	46.6	44.2	47.1	45.7
Yorkshire and the								
Humber	47.1	47.0	46.7	47.3	47.7	46.7	47.6	47.3
East Midlands	40.2	40.4	41.2	40.8	40.2	39.7	40.4	39.6
West Midlands	47.2	47.0	47.4	45.2	45.5	46.5	47.4	44.6
East of England	34.2	34.6	33.3	32.7	32.7	33.3	33.1	31.4
London	50.3	52.8	51.8	49.2	46.0	45.6	45.7	44.6
South East	35.0	34.4	33.1	33.3	34.1	33.1	32.9	32.9
South West	37.1	35.3	34.1	34.3	34.0	33.0	36.1	34.7

Source: ONS, Under 18 Conception Statistics 1998-2008, February 2010

Figure 27



Source: ONS, Under 18 Conception Statistics 1998-2008, February 2010

As ever, there are disparities within the region, with seven authorities having rates above the regional average listed below (Fig 28). Statistics relating to teenage conceptions are prone to unexplained 'spikes' and it is clear that monitoring the effectiveness of particular initiatives will be problematic. Over time, there can be an expectation that rates should improve significantly.

Ciaura 20		Data = = 4 000 familia 45 47
Figure 28		Rate per 1,000 females 15 - 17
	Hartlepool	65.9
	Stockton-on-Tees	53.0
	Sunderland	52.7
	Middlesbrough	51.8
	Darlington	51.1
	South Tyneside	50.8
	Newcastle upon T	yne 50.5

Gateshead

49.2 Source: ONS, Under 18 Conception Statistics 1998-2008, February 2010

Persons aged under 18 years admitted to hospital with alcohol specific conditions

There is recognition that alcohol consumption and the risk behaviours associated with it are becoming of increasing concern in the North East, particularly since many of the indicators relating to alcohol consumption are strongly correlated with deprivation. The most recent national study on alcohol indications⁴ reports that the gap between regions on some indicators is widening; for example, months of life lost and mortality attributable to alcohol are increasing in the North East, North West and Yorkshire and The Humber, but decreasing or remaining static in the East of England, London and the South East. Hospital admissions are increasing throughout the country, but are particularly high in the North East and a number of authorities are showing particularly high levels.

Figure 29

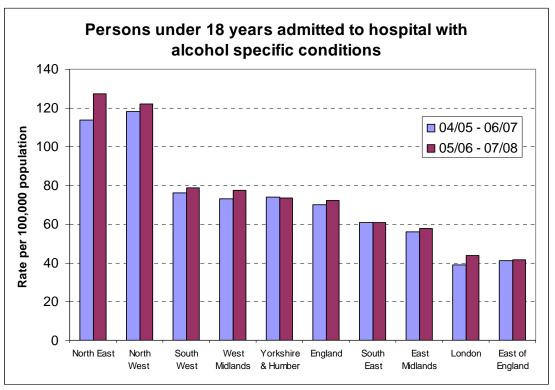
	Rate per 100,000 population		
	2004/05 - 2006/07	2005/06 - 2007/08	
North East	113.5	127.2	
North West	118.0	122.2	
South West	76.0	78.6	
West Midlands	72.9	77.4	
Yorkshire & Humber	73.8	73.6	
England	69.8	72.3	
South East	60.9	60.6	
East Midlands	55.8	57.9	
London	39.1	43.6	
East of England	41.3	41.4	

Source: Local Alcohol Profiles for England, NWPHO, from Hospital Episode Statistics, 2004/05 – 2007/08

Seven out of 12 North East authorities are in the 30 worst performing areas in the country:

	2005/06 - 2007/08
 Darlington 	192.0
 Sunderland 	161.1
 Middlesbrough 	158.4
 Redcar and Cleveland 	145.5
 North Tyneside 	138.8
 County Durham 	133.1
 Hartlepool 	130.6

Figure 30



Source: Local Alcohol Profiles for England, NWPHO, from Hospital Episode Statistics, 2004/05 – 2007/08

The baseline

It should be clear that this report is not an attempt to describe and systematically measure the extent of child poverty across the region. Other measures, such as the indices of multiple deprivation⁵ or the Local Index of Child Well Being⁶ are designed to show how different parts of the country compare across a range of themes. As they provide a system of rankings, however, they can be misleading in charting performance as they provide a 'snapshot' at a particular point in time. This report limits itself to providing information on a range of topics that will be updated at a specific point each year to mark progress in areas that are of particular concern in the North East.

There has been a great deal of discussion over what type of indicator should be included in this report and policy makers will also be aware that, as a result of the Child Poverty Act, local authorities will be required to publish a local child poverty needs assessment. It is not, however, the intention of this report to supply all the data needs for these assessments.

This report has used the latest data available at the end of March 2010. As data is released at different times for different topics, the charts and tables will not always refer to the same time period. Dates and sources have been given for each data set.

References and links

- The prevalence, characteristics and distribution of child poverty in the north east region. Jonathan Bradshaw, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York/NERIP 2009
 - http://www.nerip.com/library/view.aspx?id=1069
- 2 Tracking economic deprivation in New Deal for Communities areas, CLG, 2010 http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/communities/trackingeconomicdeprivation
- Developing a typology of deprived areas in the North East, NERIP May 2010 http://www.nerip.com/library/view.aspx?id=1065
- Indications of Public Health in the English Regions 8: Alcohol, NWPHO, August 2007 http://www.apho.org.uk/resource/item.aspx?RID=39376
- 5 Indices of Deprivation 2007 CLG http://www.communities.gov.uk/communities/neighbourhoodrenewal/deprivation/deprivation07/
- 6 Local Index of Child Well Being 2009 CLG http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/communities/childwellbeing2009