

State of Sheffield

2017

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Foreword

Welcome to the State of Sheffield Report 2017.

As evidenced by this report and previous additions, there has been no shying away from the substantial challenges we face and the opportunities that we must grasp.

Looking forward to the future with optimism and determination, whilst recognising that so much remains to be done, is the hallmark of a city prepared to acknowledge what is wrong, while remaining positive about the strengths which will enable us to overcome and deal with the issues identified. We are proud of our city and feel that our combined willingness to work together and reflect on both our strengths and weaknesses is underpinned by the hard evidence produced both in past and present updates of the State of Sheffield.

The analysis in this report provides a solid and hard-edged platform upon which we can build a grounded approach to achieving agreed ambitions, whilst maintaining a willingness to face up to and accept facts and to counter the current trend for rejecting unpalatable truths and evidence-based research.

Indeed, we have many unique assets and therefore opportunities and the value and power of working in partnership has been shown very clearly in taking forward the recommendations of the Fairness Commission and in our achievements in improving educational attainment. These are examples of work in progress, but give us a foundation to build upon, whilst being realistic about the scale of the challenge which will face us in the months and years ahead.

Together with the imaginative proposals in the Sheffield City Region Vision Prospectus, which explores ways to further unlock the economic and social potential of the city region (to be published shortly), this report provides us with the kind of analysis and forward view, which is essential in enabling the elected representatives of our city, the great institutions, businesses and organisations, and the voluntary and not-for-profit sector to work together effectively.

In 2017, the Sheffield City Partnerships Board will be leading a city-wide approach to both engagement, and fostering practical proposals for inclusive growth. The objectives will be to maximise talent, identify obstacles to fairness and justice, and ensure we build a prosperous city that benefits the whole of the citizenry. This will build on people's sense of identity and belonging, their desire to overcome disadvantage and discrimination and enable the city as a whole to grasp the potential for the future.

We hope that those engaging with the State of Sheffield 2017 find it an interesting and informative read. Above all, the Sheffield City Partnership Board hope that it will provide an excellent resource for those wanting to both understand and promote the wellbeing of Sheffield and contribute to turning knowledge and understanding into positive action by individuals, organisations, businesses or institutions into the future.

We look forward to reporting back in 2018 not least on the development of a joined-up strategy for achieving a fairer and more economically, socially and culturally successful future for the city.



The Rt Hon. The Lord Blunkett

Chair of the Sheffield City Partnership Board, Professor of Politics in Practice at The University of Sheffield and Chair of the Board of the Crick Centre

Introduction

The State of Sheffield report provides an overview of the city, describing how things are, how things are changing and how Sheffield compares to other similar places. It is not based on one single organisational perspective, but instead uses a wide range of existing data sources and reports, and for the first time this year, has been written by a team of authors. It is the only report that brings together information on developments in Sheffield to reflect on city-wide issues and trends. The purpose of the report is to inform anyone with an interest in how our city is performing, including the city leaders on the Sheffield City Partnership Board, about the shared challenges and opportunities facing the city, and highlight future priorities to pursue.

The six previous State of Sheffield reports have shown that whilst individual people, businesses and communities have had different experiences, Sheffield as a whole has shown resilience in response to external factors. The last five years have seen a growing population; increases in jobs, employment and wealth creation; and improvements in educational attainment and health outcomes. The numbers of young and older people have both increased, and there is a greater variety of ethnic cultures and heritages. The city centre has become a residential location of choice, and consequently its population has increased rapidly and new commercial investments have been attracted. However, during this period of sustained national austerity with impacts on welfare funding and local services, the city has also had to face-up to challenges common to other areas in the UK around the levels of productivity in the economy, financial inequality, social cohesion, and opportunities for the young.

All State of Sheffield reports have shown how the city has changed and how it continues to change. These city trends are determined by a host of factors. Transformation in the city's economy has been brought about by changes in the flows of global trade, as all cities seek to serve and take advantage of new emerging markets. Whilst industrial specialisation, such as advanced manufacturing, plays a part in this, the service sector has consistently played a crucial

role in all urban change, with sectors such as financial services and the digital industries creating new employment and wealth. In the past, new bursts of urban energy, new shifts in direction, and new phases of innovation have frequently come in response to periods of crisis as the volatility and diversity of urban communities provide creativity for potential city growth and change. The recent referendum on the UK membership of the European Union and other changes in the global order point toward a period of such flux and new challenges for the city of Sheffield.

History shows that potential threats to successful urban development such as outward migration, economic downturns, problems of urban identity, issues of political autonomy and inter-urban competition have often been used creatively by cities and their communities, particularly the most successful ones with strong imaginative leaderships, to strengthen their identity and improve their performance. Creativity and innovation become transmitted across the many urban networks through a range of social relationships including migrants, universities, voluntary associations and professional activities. Cultural developments have also been significant in shaping such changes in urban fortunes. The role of social welfare transfers and education remains critical to containing poverty and ensuring social mobility and cohesion, and in the past, effective government has very often underpinned successful city development.

In light of these wider considerations about urban change, it is significant that Sheffield does differ from other major cities such as Birmingham and Manchester by not being part of a larger metropolitan conurbation, remaining relatively self-contained and surrounded by a region of other smaller urban areas and rural areas with villages. As a result, it is important each year to place developments and changes occurring in Sheffield within appropriate contexts to throw light on what might be different or distinctive about the city and to identify challenges requiring local or particular responses. Many discussions about the city are framed within short time horizons. This focus may convey immediacy and relevance, but the effect can be to obscure longer-term issues and trends. The State of

Sheffield 2017 reflects on such wider processes by reporting on current key features of our city: the vibrant economy; the youthful and the ageing city; fairness; the urban ecosystem; and, for the first time, democracy and engagement in the city. These themes have been selected to shed further light on how Sheffield might be able to respond to possible future developments.

In the section on the vibrant economy, emphasis is placed on the role of the city's businesses and workforce to bring about a transformation in Sheffield's economic performance. Recent changes in the business landscape are described, with emphasis placed on new start-ups, key sectors and the role of innovation and creativity in providing distinctive advantages for the city. Whilst businesses may be the key driver to economic growth, the workforce of the city is a critical asset, and one which is regarded as being increasingly important to successful, good quality and just growth. The report presents evidence on how Sheffield's working-age population is acquiring higher-level educational skills and how this is being converted into higher rates of economic and employment activity with comparisons made to other Core Cities.

The significant and recent changes in the demography of Sheffield have been reported in previous State of Sheffield reports. These highlight the importance of seeing Sheffield as an intergenerational city. A city that can both maximise the assets and opportunities that the two main age cohorts of the young and the old bring to the city, but also to consider how the city needs to respond to the needs and aspirations of these populations. The two sections describing ageing and younger people highlight the importance of active ageing and the role that income, employment and health can play in this; and the significant improvements that have been made in pupil attainment and workforce development in the city in an attempt to allow young people to realise their ambitions.

Cities around the world currently face the two major challenges of how to adapt to the outcomes and causes of climate change, and how to counter and respond to growing inequalities. Sheffield has recognised these strategic

questions by setting up the Sheffield Fairness Commission in 2012 and the Sheffield Green Commission in 2016. The section on fairness reports on poverty, financial insecurity, inequalities in education and health, and social cohesion in the city. The eco-city section describes Sheffield's green infrastructure and how the city is becoming more active in using it, and reports on recent changes in air quality and recycling activities.

A major factor in the way that cities are able to manage and respond to change is the role that citizens can play in these processes. The sixth section of this report describes how the city engages with its citizens, the levels of participation in local democracy, changes in representation in the leadership of the city, and the significant roles of community and voluntary organisations in Sheffield. The final section of the report looks at the way ahead by reflecting on the findings of the previous chapters and identifying some critical areas for the city and its leadership to consider over the year ahead.

Professor Gordon Dabinett, University of Sheffield



Vibrant Economy

Creative Sheffield (Sheffield City Council)

Vibrant Economy

Recent years have seen Sheffield showing positive signs of recovery from the recession. However, now, Sheffield, along with the UK as a whole, faces an increased period of economic uncertainty following the vote in June 2016 to leave the EU. The effects of this decision will begin to play out over the next few years and are likely to present a range of opportunities and challenges for Sheffield's two universities and businesses from all sectors. Businesses in the city have proved resilient thus far, and there are a number of growth sectors, including advanced manufacturing and creative and digital industries, both of which demonstrate Sheffield's ability to foster emerging industries that offer opportunities for skills development and good-quality, sustainable jobs well into the future. The key for the city now is to exploit this growth potential to address the challenges we face in terms of inequality, ensuring that all of our citizens are able to benefit from, and participate in building a prosperous and successful Sheffield in the years to come.



Photography by:
Cover: Ian Spooner
Left: Ian Spooner

The Business Landscape and Start-ups

In order to understand Sheffield's economy in 2017, it is necessary to look at it in context. One way of doing this is to compare Sheffield to the seven other English Core Cities and other parts of the Sheffield City Region.

In 2015, over 2200 new businesses set up in the city: this represents 6.1 business start-ups per 1000 people of working age, which is lower than the national average of 9.93. However, the performance varies across sectors. Ensuring that we have more start-ups in the future, and that businesses can grow, is vital in creating employment for Sheffield's residents, particularly as the city is more reliant on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) compared to other cities. For example, 18% of Sheffield's businesses are in the wholesale and retail sectors and 86% of these employ fewer than nine people. Construction represents the city's third largest sector in terms of the number of businesses, yet the vast majority of these (93%) are microbusinesses employing fewer than ten people. In 2015, Sheffield had the third slowest growth rate of new business start-ups of all the Core Cities¹, a trend evident since 2010.

1. Centre for Cities, Cities Data Tool 2016

However, Sheffield businesses showed considerable resilience during the recession and this has continued; indeed, Sheffield has the third lowest rate of business closures across the Core Cities. Furthermore, data suggests that the city is performing strongly in innovation, with the second highest number of patents granted per 100,000 people in 2014 among the Core Cities, with only Bristol achieving a higher rate.

Economic Output, Productivity and Growth

There have been some strong indicators of economic recovery in Sheffield since the 2008 recession. Sheffield has had the fourth fastest growth in gross value added (GVA)² among Core Cities since 2011. Sheffield's GVA per head remains the lowest of all Core Cities, at £19,833 compared to £25,601 nationally, but only Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol grew faster than Sheffield in this period, and since 2011 these are now the only Core Cities

2. GVA measures the value of goods and services produced in an area, industry or sector of the economy

‘The growth of the creative and digital industry sector is another of the city’s recent success stories’

3. Irwin Mitchell, City Growth Tracker, July 2016

to have outpaced the national average. However, there are signs that growth in GVA may be slowing: according to the UK Powerhouse City Growth Tracker 2016, Sheffield has seen a 1.8% year-on-year growth in GVA, which is lower than the majority of other cities³. However, key sectors are still growing: the sectors that contribute most to Sheffield's GVA include public administration, education and health, accounting for 28% of the total. These have grown by 5% since 2011 despite government cuts.

Output and productivity figures are significant measures of how well the city's economy is performing. These statistics also have repercussions for the UK as a whole: Sheffield is one of the country's largest cities, and therefore plays an important role in the nation's overall economy. The UK has a well-documented productivity gap compared to other leading western economies. Sheffield's GVA per head and GVA per worker are both lower than the national average, adding to this national productivity challenge. In fact, all Core Cities are below the national average. Understanding key factors that contribute to economic performance allows productivity challenges faced by Sheffield to be better understood and addressed. Employment, unemployment and economic inactivity rates all play a significant role and are explored in detail within this section.

Key Sector Development and Innovation

A look at the city's sector make-up when compared to other Core Cities confirms that Sheffield has a larger than average manufacturing sector, accounting for 9% of jobs compared to an average of 6% across the Core Cities. Founded on Sheffield's industrial heritage and with assistance through growth initiatives such as the creation of the Advanced Manufacturing Park, the city continues to strengthen its sector specialism in advanced manufacturing. The successful relationship between the University of Sheffield and large global companies such as Rolls Royce, Boeing, BAE Systems and Hitachi have ensured that Sheffield's advanced manufacturing sector continues

to grow whilst providing employment and training opportunities to the local workforce. This growth has provided a positive multiplier effect, establishing the platform for economic agglomeration within this sector through the creation of an advanced manufacturing hub and plans for an Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District, benefiting from shared research and technology facilities that can drive scientific research.

The health and education sectors remain dominant employment sectors and have grown over the last five years in contrast to the declining trend occurring within other Core Cities. Other sectors perform below national and Core City averages, and as a result these are under-represented in Sheffield. However, Sheffield has seen growth in a number of industry sectors⁴. The most noticeable increase has been in the professional, scientific and technical sector, where the city has increased its proportion of jobs by 2%, equating to an increase of 10,000 jobs in five years. This increase is significantly higher than the trend experienced by the other Core Cities.

Healthcare technologies are another key specialism for Sheffield. Whilst the sector is of modest size, it is building on the local expertise of the materials and advanced manufacturing sector. It is also highly productive, with a GVA per employee of £47,000 per annum⁵. Furthermore, there is projected global growth in relevant markets, such as medical devices, telehealth and 3D printing, with companies located in Sheffield providing cutting-edge design in these specialisms.

The growth of the creative and digital industry sector is another of the city's recent success stories. Through incubation of local firms and building on the strengths of the human capital supported by the city's two universities, Sheffield is home to a growing collective of creative businesses and is quickly developing a reputation for innovation and quality, with specialist clusters such as education technology and the games industry. The recent launch of Sheffield Digital, the city's digital industries association, means that businesses locating to Sheffield can connect to the city's growing ecosystem with ease.

4. Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES), 2016

5. Sheffield City Region, Sector Specialisms Report, 2013

This will be enhanced by the city's new digital incubation hub facility, the 'Tech Hub'.

Sheffield's two universities not only provide a wealth of new talent, but have also become part of the city's tech cluster, with each one setting up their own software development house. The opportunities for the city are substantial; the contribution of this sector to the UK economy has grown over the last 15 years and employment is expected to continue to grow as the sector takes advantage of international opportunities.

Photograph by:
Phillip Joel



The City's Workforce

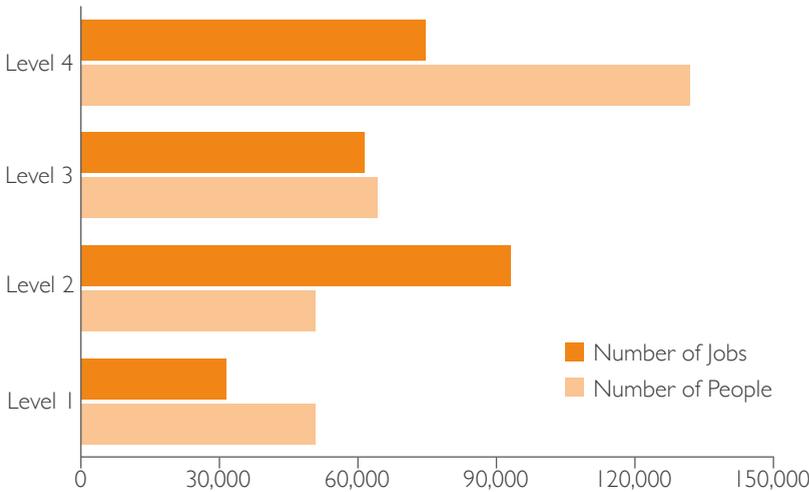
Understanding the workforce from a generational perspective makes it possible to determine what attracts people to live and work in Sheffield, and importantly what type of businesses may look to locate in the city. In Sheffield, similar to other UK cities, millennials (people reaching young adulthood in the early 21st century), are the city's largest generation, making up 29% of the population. They are sought-after employees and are one of the key generations that employers consider when making location decisions. This high proportion of millennials is driven largely by Sheffield's two universities, which attract large numbers of students into the city. The growth rate of this generation has been 3% over the last year, which matches the Core City growth rate and exceeds the rate for the UK.

The proportion of Sheffield's population educated to NVQ level 4 (undergraduate level) and above is around the national average at 36%, but falls short of the average for the Core Cities⁶. Nevertheless, there are still more people educated to NVQ level 4 and above than there are jobs requiring this level of education.

6. ONS Labour Market Profile – Sheffield, 2017

Sheffield Occupation Skill Levels Vs Education Skill Levels

Data Source: ONS Annual Population Survey 2015



Level 4 jobs are those requiring a degree or equivalent, and include positions in management, information technology, financial services and professional services. Level 3 jobs require A levels or equivalent, level 2 jobs require GCSE grades A* to C or equivalent, and level 1 jobs require GCSE grades D to G or equivalent

The majority of people in the city work in level 2 jobs with lower skills requirements and correspondingly lower pay, despite the fact that many of the people taking up such positions may be educated to a higher level.

The lack of level 4 jobs and high proportion of low skilled workers have been factors impacting on Sheffield's average salary, which is the third lowest of all Core Cities at £26,834 and below the national average of £28,213.

Sheffield Vs UK Average Salaries 2008 to 2015 (Annual Gross Pay [£] Full-Time Workers)



Data Source: ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings

Nevertheless, wage growth is closing this gap to the national average, with an 11% growth seen in Sheffield between 2011 and 2016 compared to 8% across the UK. Sheffield's salary growth rate is currently the second fastest of the Core Cities.

However, a high proportion of the economically active in Sheffield have only lower skills. Sheffield has the highest percentage of economically active people qualified only to NVQ level 1 among the Core Cities (12.5% compared to 10.5% nationally). The percentage of people in the city who hold no qualifications is also higher than

the national average, at 6.8% compared to 5.5%. This has, however, fallen over the last decade. Upskilling the workforce is a key challenge; the Skills Made Easy programme, in place across the Sheffield City Region, successfully completed a pilot phase in July 2016, at which point it had worked with businesses to improve the skill levels of over 2000 employees in two and a half years. Skills Made Easy is now working to provide the vital employer engagement and brokerage service needed to support the City Region's Skills Bank where it aims to secure 3200 workforce upskilling opportunities in the Sheffield City Region by April 2018.

As discussed in the Youthful City section of this report, attainment levels among young people in the city have also been rising and the challenge is now to utilise and maximise these skills in a way that benefits the city's economy, and ultimately its residents.



Photograph by:
Phillip Joel

Connectivity

7. Centre for Cities, *Competing with the Continent*, 2016

In the recent Centre for Cities report, ‘Competing with the Continent’, investment in transport within cities and their wider areas is identified as being key to encouraging economic growth, by linking residential areas to jobs⁷. The North has a well-publicised challenge with regard to transport. The region, including Sheffield, has affordable housing in comparison to London and the South-East, large numbers of skilled graduates, strong governance, and unique sector strengths stemming from its industrial heritage. Nevertheless, cities in the northern triangle of Sheffield, Manchester and Leeds are poorly connected at present.

8. The National Infrastructure Commission, *High Speed North*, 2015

In March 2016, the Government’s independent National Infrastructure Commission published its third report, ‘High Speed North’⁸. It found that the North needs immediate and very significant investment, alongside a long-term strategic approach to transforming connectivity. The report shows that the region has significant infrastructure constraints, particularly in relation to transport links between the cities. For example, current rail routes across the Pennines average speeds of just 44 mph between Manchester and Sheffield⁹. In addition, Transport for the North refers to road connectivity between Manchester and Sheffield as one of the main gaps in connectivity in the North of England¹⁰.

9. Irwin Mitchell, *City Growth Tracker July 2016*

10. Department for Transport, *Highways England and Transport for the North, Trans-Pennine Tunnel Strategic Study*, 2016

As discussed in the State of Sheffield 2016, travelling to work is becoming more commonplace, and people are often travelling longer distances. Out-commuters are more likely to be employed in higher-skilled occupations, such as higher managerial and professional occupations, than those who live and work in Sheffield¹¹. This commuting situation illustrates the lack of highly skilled jobs available in the city and lower salaries for comparable jobs, but this is also perhaps reflective of the city’s attractiveness as a place to live, not least as a cultural and outdoor leisure hub.

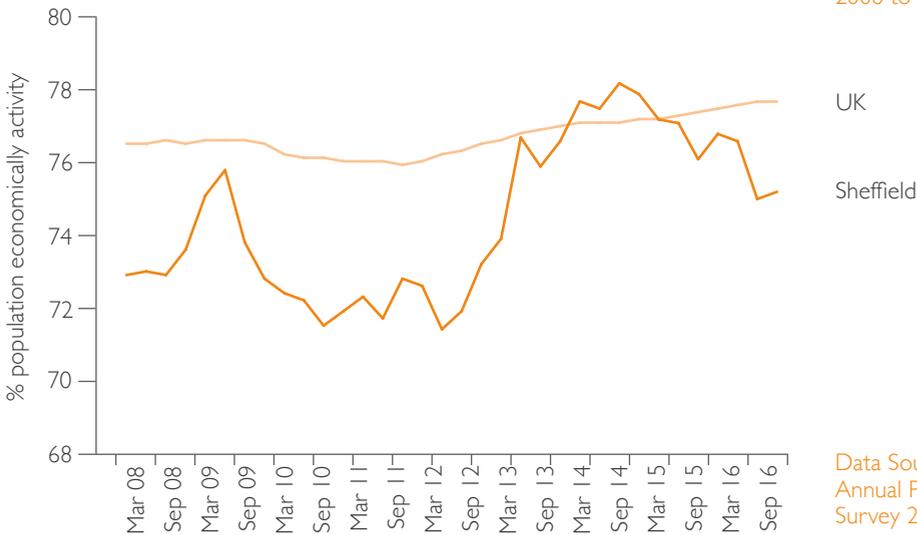
Employment and Economic Activity

Sheffield’s employment landscape is a complex and mixed picture. The city has comparatively good economic activity rates and employment rates compared to Core Cities with 75.2% of the population either in employment or available for work or training. The UK economic activity rate currently stands slightly higher at 77.9%. In Sheffield 68.6% of people are in employment, surpassing pre-recession levels. The latest Sheffield Economic Bulletin for 2016 shows that self-employment has increased by 10.3%, representing 12,800 more people than the same period last year. This is likely to reflect both Sheffield’s entrepreneurial character and a lack of alternative suitable jobs. Studies have shown real wages among those who are self-employed have fallen faster than for employees in recent years¹². There is evidence that across the UK there has been an increase in the proportion of people who are employed with zero-hours contracts between 2015 and 2016. In the Yorkshire and Humber region the figure has substantially increased over this time period from 2.1% in 2015 to 3.4% in 2016¹³.

12. Sheffield City Council, Economic Bulletin Q3 2016

13. ONS Labour Market Survey, 2016

Sheffield vs UK Economic Activity Rates 2008 to 2015



Data Source: ONS Annual Population Survey 2015

Photograph by:
James Bolton



A key challenge is to ensure that everyone can benefit from opportunities created in the economy; inclusive growth will be key to future success. As already mentioned, the city works closely with developers and inward investors, linking planning and developments to upskilling and employment opportunities for local people. For example, in October 2016 alone, more than 2000 people attended jobs fairs supported by Sheffield City Council linked to the development of the new Sheffield IKEA store.

Sheffield has an economic inactivity rate lower than most Core Cities, although the city's unemployment rate remains higher than the national average¹⁴ (and the number of people claiming out-of-work benefits has returned to pre-recession levels). The City Council is working with Jobcentre Plus, GPs and other health professionals to support people with health problems to prepare for and move into work. 25 GP surgeries are already referring patients who they believe will benefit from this support. In addition, the City Council is working with local organisations in its wider employment programme to pave the way for the integrated employment service pilot announced as part of the Sheffield City Region devolution deal.

14. ONS Labour Market Profile – Sheffield, 2017

‘Although Sheffield has a legacy of economic challenges in some respects, there are many people living and working in the city who are committed to ensuring that the city has a vibrant future ahead’

Prosperity and Vibrancy

The UK Prosperity Index finds that economic growth does not necessarily equate to better lives for citizens. In defining prosperity, the report looks at a number of factors beyond wealth alone, including education, health, safety and security, and natural environment. When prosperity is compared to an area's wealth, just 34 of the UK's 138 urban areas are delivering notably more prosperity than their wealth would suggest. The majority have marked prosperity deficits¹⁵. Within the Core Cities, Sheffield is fourth after Bristol, Leeds and Newcastle when measured by economic quality, calculated on the basis of key economic indicators such as unemployment, child poverty, median annual earnings and GVA growth. However, when ranked according to how prosperous each city is on the whole, Sheffield comes second only to Bristol.

15. The Legatum Institute, UK Prosperity Index, 2016

To further explore links between economic growth and vibrancy, Sheffield hosted the first Grant Thornton Live Lab in May 2016¹⁶, an event that brought together the private and public sector to identify ways of realising Sheffield's shared potential to create a vibrant economy. This involved looking into the physical constraints of the city that may be restricting business growth and productivity, as well as workforce-enabling initiatives such as mentoring schemes for the next employment generation. The focus of the Live Lab was to emphasise Sheffield's unique strengths and identify how to seek opportunities and overcome challenges to pursue the city's ambitions for making Sheffield an innovation and creativity leader. Aspirations for an inclusive and vibrant economy must therefore acknowledge and look to tackle fundamental social, technological and economic challenges.

16. <http://vibranteconomy.grantthornton.co.uk>

Much like Sheffield's economy as a whole, the success of such projects depends on a wide variety of stakeholders and involves harnessing the city's collective resources, creativity and belief to face challenges and take opportunities needed for change. Although Sheffield has a legacy of economic challenges in some respects, there are many people living and working in the city who are committed to ensuring that the city has a vibrant future ahead.



Youthful City

Children, Young People and
Families (Sheffield City Council)
and Learn Sheffield

Youthful City

One of the key components of a future vibrant economy is the contribution that young people are able to make and the extent to which they can fulfil their aspirations. In recent years, Sheffield has made good progress towards improving education and skills, with improved outcomes for schools and pupils, high rates of 16 and 17 year olds engaging in education or training and successful apprenticeship programmes. Sheffield is also still attracting large number of students to the city, and as reflected in the Vibrant Economy section, sectors such as advanced manufacturing and creative and digital industries are growing, providing more opportunities for young people to live and work in Sheffield. This journey of improvement is in large part reflective of how partners in the city have come together to support Sheffield's young people to fulfil their potential and build a strong foundation for the city's future.



Photography by:
Cover: Ian Spooner
Left: John Beadman

‘The educational outcomes achieved by Sheffield’s children are now approaching national averages. This represents a significant positive shift compared with the position only a few years ago, and is a positive platform for future outcomes’

Changing Sheffield

Sheffield has experienced a population growth of 8% since 2001, and has a current school-age population of approximately 73,000 pupils. The majority of this increase has been caused by increasing birth rates, together with inward migration to the city.

Sheffield's Children

The educational attainment of children and young people in Sheffield has increased in the last few years. The city has improved in most measures at a faster rate than is the case nationally over the last five years, leading to improved outcomes relative to national figures. This trajectory has continued in 2016, with provisional data

Foundation Stage	Ages 2-5	Pre-School and Reception
Key Stage 1	Ages 5-7	Years 1, 2
Key Stage 2	Ages 7-11	Years 4, 5 and 6
Key Stage 3	Ages 11-14	Years 7, 8 and 9
Key Stage 4	Ages 14-16	Years 10 and 11

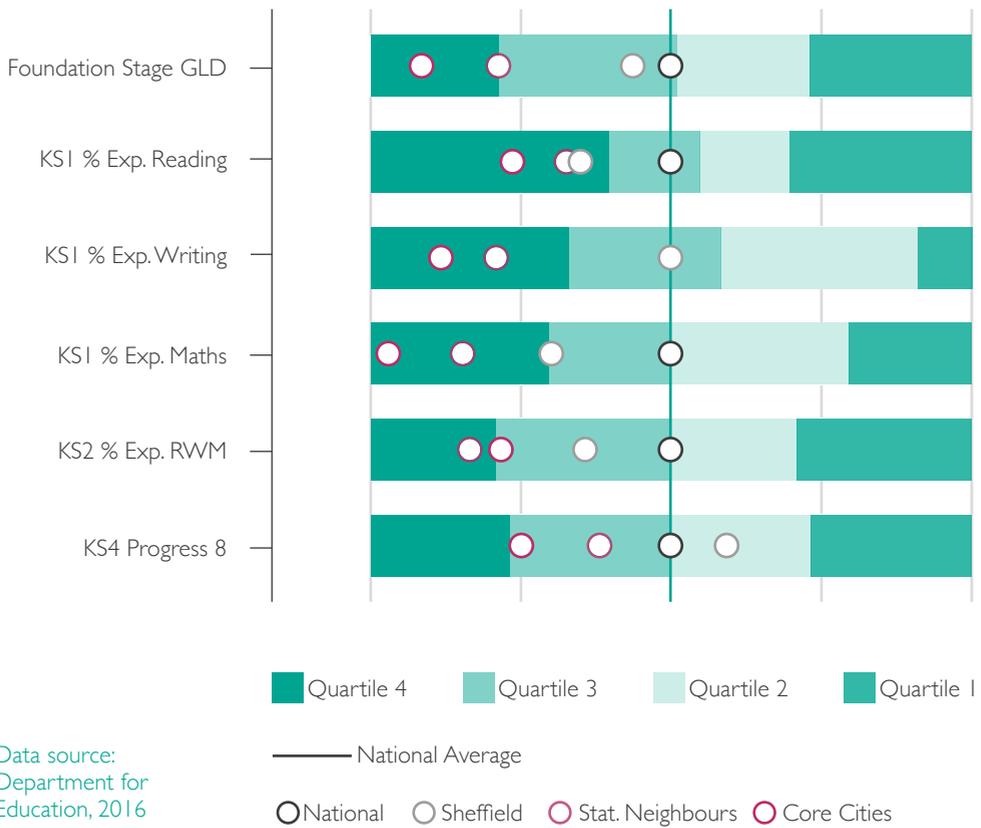
suggesting that the city's children are equalling national performance levels in the key measures in Foundation Stage, reducing the gap in Key Stage 2 to just 1% and achieving a positive Progress 8¹⁷ measure in Key Stage 4.

Taken as a whole, the educational outcomes achieved by Sheffield's children are now approaching national averages. This represents a significant positive shift compared with the position only a few years ago, and is a positive platform for future outcomes.

This improved performance is also reflected in Sheffield's local authority rankings, which are both significantly better than previous rankings and considerably stronger in relation to Core Cities and statistical neighbours. Perhaps most importantly, the 2016 rankings see Sheffield do better than its deprivation rankings, both in terms of overall deprivation and child poverty, across the education system.

17. Progress 8 is the new headline measure of progress in Key Stage 4 and aims to capture the progress a pupil makes from the end of primary school to the end of secondary.

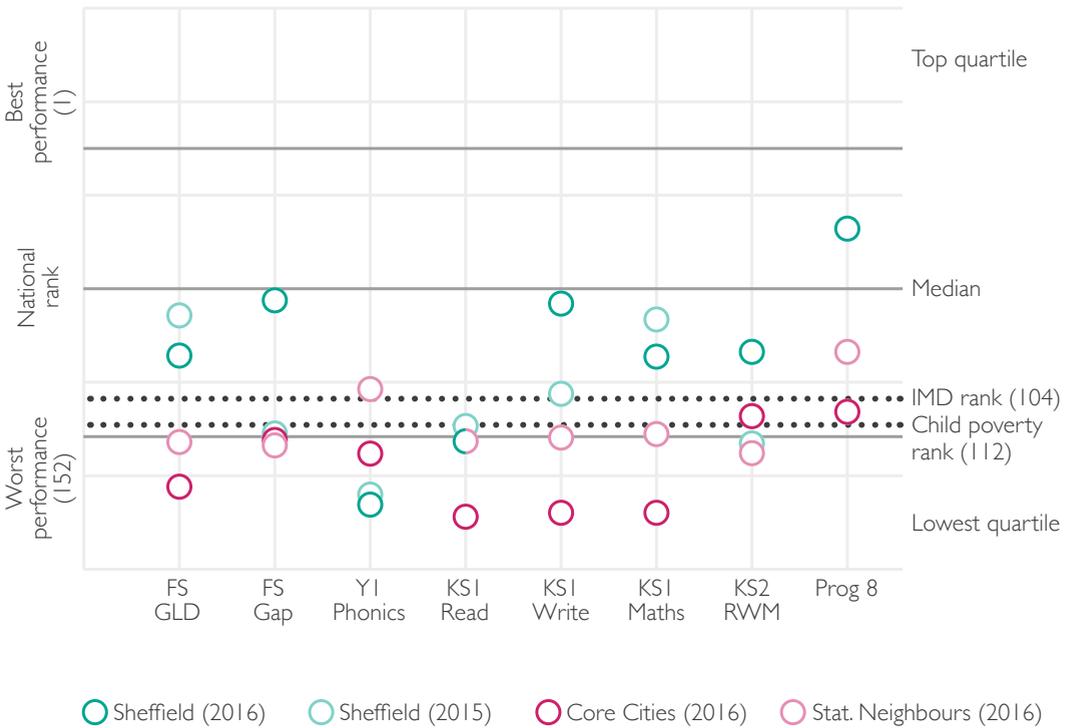
Summary of Sheffield
Attainment and
Progress 2016



Data source:
Department for
Education, 2016

Improved pupil outcomes are also matched by improved school outcomes. Sheffield ended 2015 with 81.8% of Sheffield schools judged to be “Good” or better by Ofsted. This was an increase of 5.2% on the last school year and 10.5% since January 2015. The rate of improvement in Sheffield has been two and a half times the rate of national improvement, so again the gap has narrowed significantly. We must continue to work towards matching the performance of the highest performing areas of the country, so that the education system in Sheffield provides our young people with the best possible life chances.

Sheffield National Rank Summary by Key Stage



Data source: Department for Education, 2016

‘More than 92% of Sheffield’s 16 and 17 year olds are in full-time education or training, an apprenticeship or another job with training. This is better than both the national average and the average for Core Cities’



Photograph by:
Philip Joel

Young People and Early Adulthood

A level performance by young people in the city across all measures is not significantly different from the national average for state-funded schools and colleges. Performance in Sheffield is typically better than the Core Cities and the statistical neighbour average.

The changing demography of the city can be seen in the numbers of 16 to 18 year olds and young adults in Sheffield. After more than a decade of growth, there is now a downturn in the numbers of 16 to 18 year olds, and this is expected continue for the next few years. At the same time, the number of academies or maintained schools with sixth forms has almost doubled. When this is combined with the range of provision offered by the city's colleges and training providers and the tightening of post-16 budgets, a mismatch in supply and demand emerges. Some significant adjustment in post-16 provision across the city will be required as well as a planned and concerted response on the part of the learning sector.

It is widely acknowledged that in order to be prepared for the workplace, young people need to develop a range of skills including team working, communication and resilience. Having a diverse post 16 offer in the city allows more young people to work towards their career aspirations in an appropriate setting. The city's second university technical college (UTC), specialising in computing, health sciences and sport science, opened at the Sheffield Olympic Legacy Park in September 2016. Sheffield's first UTC in the city centre, specialising in engineering and the creative and digital industries, opened in 2013 with the college's first graduates emerging with excellent results, particularly in technical subjects, in 2015. Sheffield College provides young people with the opportunity to mix education and workforce development skills offering opportunities for school leavers and those on apprenticeships alongside adult education and access courses.



Photograph by:
Ian Spooner

More than 92% of Sheffield's 16 and 17 year olds are in full-time education or training, an apprenticeship or another job with training. This is better than both the national average and the average for Core Cities. There are fewer 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET), the proportion having fallen year-on-year for the past five years. Whilst the 5.2% of teenagers who are NEET remains above the national average, there has been a sustained and substantial reduction. Sheffield now has the lowest proportion of young people who are NEET compared to the other Core Cities.

Although youth unemployment (16 to 24 year olds) is now significantly below its 2011/12 peak, it is still the case that a young person is more than three times as likely to be out of work than someone aged 25 or over. This makes it ever more important for the Sheffield City Region's growth strategy to deliver good-quality, sustainable jobs and its skills strategy to ensure that young people are properly equipped to take advantage of new employment opportunities.



Photograph by:
Will Anderson

Apprenticeships and Workforce Development

There has been a strong growth in the take up of apprenticeships. At 8.9%, Sheffield has more than one and a half times the national average of teenagers taking up apprenticeships, meaning we have the second highest proportion of 16 to 17 year olds participating in apprenticeships of any major city.

Through the Sheffield City Region devolution deal with the Government, city partners have worked with local businesses to create over 800 apprenticeships in the city in two years. The Sheffield 100 programme for disadvantaged young people has placed a further 620 vulnerable teenagers into apprenticeships. With the introduction of the apprenticeship levy in July 2017, this programme will be re-launched with the City Council and the city's businesses collaborating to use Council apprenticeships as a stepping stone for those who need additional support in taking their first steps in the labour market.

In 2015/16, 1600 young people benefited from work experience placements, and through the Ambition programme almost 800 18 to 24 year olds have taken part in work placements in the last 18 months, with more than a third securing employment as a result.

Achievement and skill levels among young people, critical ingredients in the pursuit of a high-skill, high-value economy, are improving. Almost 60,000 students, a quarter at post-graduate level, attended our universities in 2016, bringing a huge influx of talent, creativity and potential for the future. Schemes like the RISE post-graduate internship programme, which has placed more than 200 graduates in smaller local companies, look to retain highly skilled young people in the city. However, a strong and unacceptable contrast exists between the proportion of young people progressing to university depending on the part of the city in which they live. Furthermore, Brexit presents a potential challenge for the universities in terms of attracting young people from EU countries and encouraging them to stay in the city in future.





Photograph by:
Philip Joel

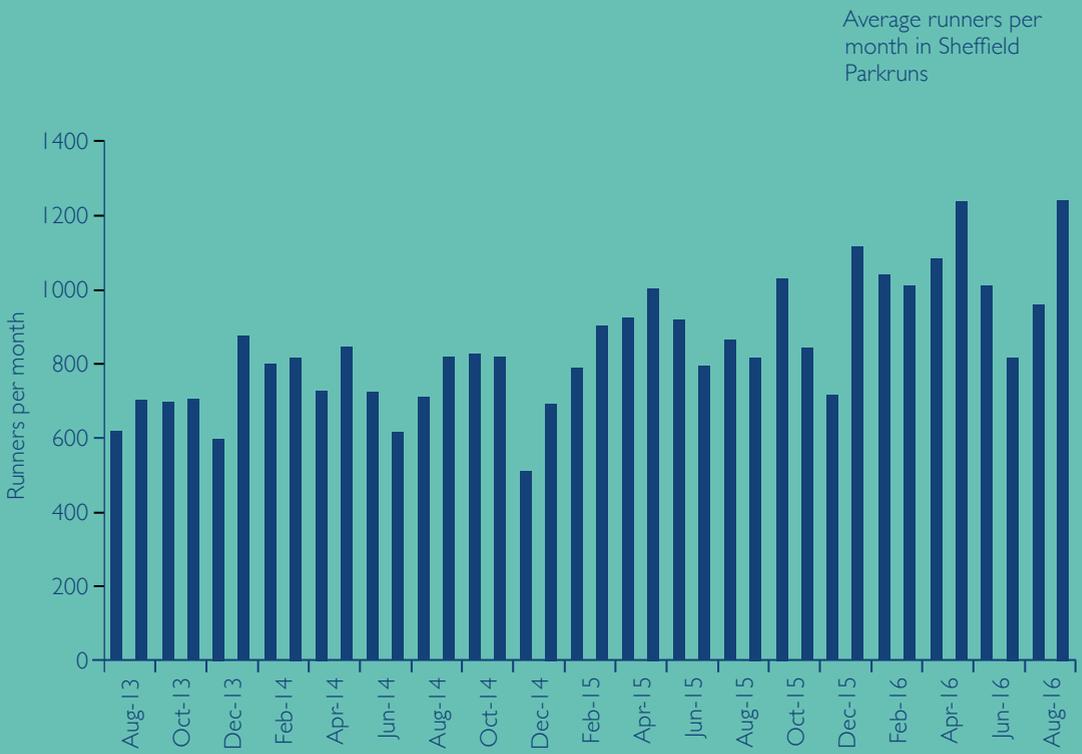
Parkrun

Case Study

Parkrun organises free timed 5km runs for adults, and 2km runs for children, in the UK and abroad every Saturday. The organisation has grown rapidly since 2004, and now has over 500,000 participants across the world and 422 parkruns in the UK, all of which are organised entirely by volunteers.

Parkrun in Sheffield began at Endcliffe Park in 2010, with four other locations added over the following three years at Concord, Graves, Hillsborough and Manor Castle. Sheffield's first junior parkrun for 4 to 14 year olds started in November 2016. Since 2013, the number of weekly runners across Sheffield has almost doubled, from 680 in 2013 to 1245 in 2016. This means that every Saturday morning, over a thousand people are running in Sheffield's parks.

The value of the parkrun movement goes beyond exercise. Each week in Sheffield, over 60 people volunteer at the events, organising, providing a safe running environment, and encouraging and supporting all those that take part.



Data source:
Parkrun 2016

Jude Stone, 31, is a regular runner at Hillsborough parkrun after recovering from a serious infection that nearly resulted in him losing a leg.

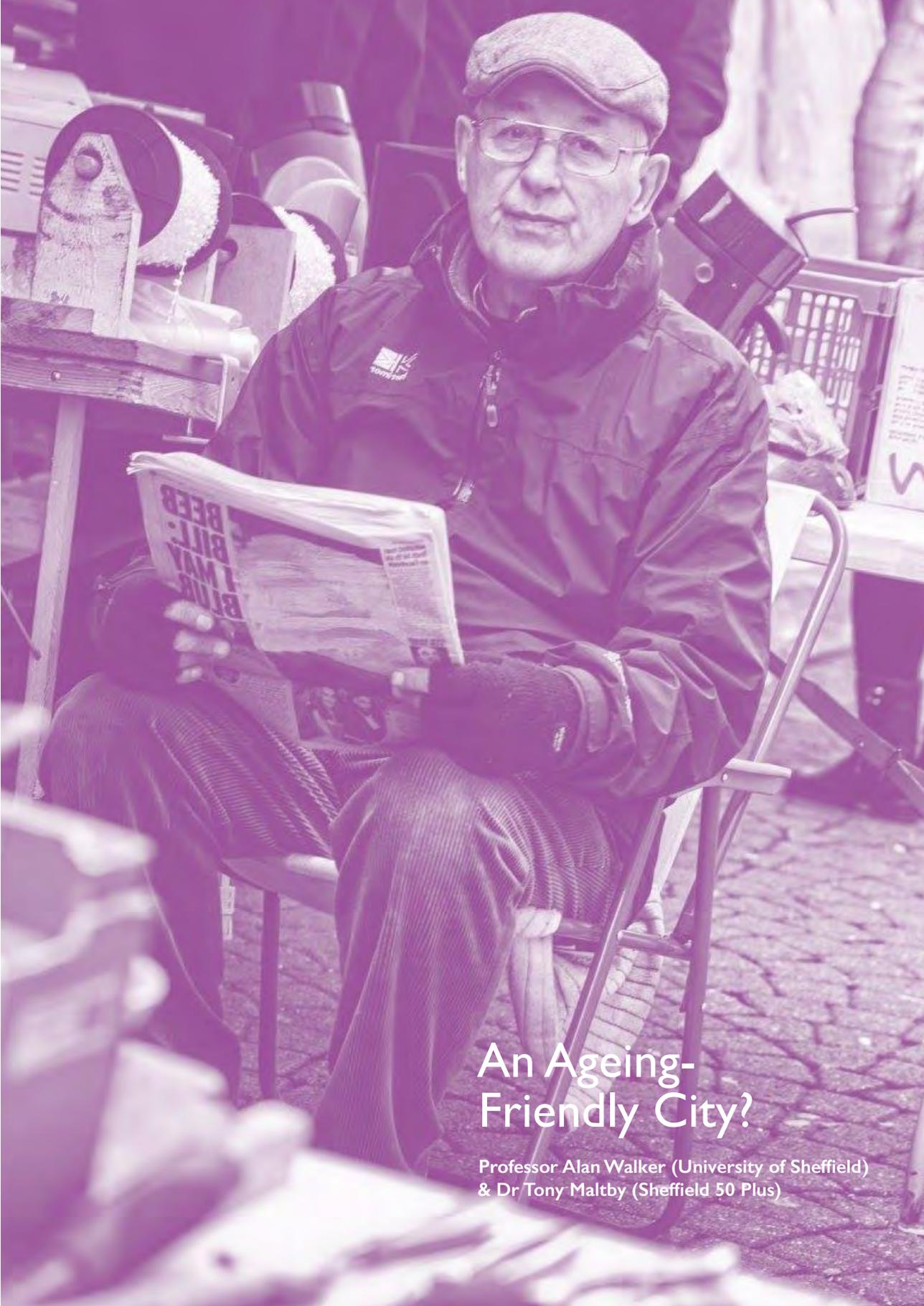
‘Parkrun has been a crucial part of me going from no exercise to now completing my first 10k race. After being bed-bound for three months and struggling to walk more than 100m, I knew I needed to do something. Parkrun has such a friendly, inclusive atmosphere where I know I can just turn up and join in. I’m doing parkrun 10 minutes faster than when I first started. It’s great to see so many people of different abilities having fun and getting fitter.’

Jennifer Milner, 42, from Beighton, was inspired to start running last summer after losing her father to COPD.

‘I knew I needed to improve my lung function, so I started running. Parkrun is my weekly run to keep me motivated. I love the whole spirit of the group and the volunteers keep you going when it gets tough. It’s a fantastic idea and has given me more years to live. We’ve got my daughters involved, and their boyfriends. Anyone thinking of taking up parkrun should definitely have a go. Even at the back, the support is amazing.’

Dave Forrest, 32, was one of those who set up junior parkrun, which launched at the end of November.

‘The beauty of junior parkrun is that our junior athletes get something of their own in the parkrun universe. The 2-km distance means that we’ve got club runners at the top end setting records, to little girls and boys going for a run for the first time. Everyone is welcome, and the junior parkrun gives kids a connection to a brilliant activity which, we hope, will stay with them for life. It is a pleasure to see such happy young faces enjoying running.’



An Ageing-Friendly City?

Professor Alan Walker (University of Sheffield)
& Dr Tony Maltby (Sheffield 50 Plus)

An Ageing-Friendly City?

How is Sheffield's population ageing, getting older, and how does this compare with the national picture? Understanding what it means for Sheffield to be an ageing-friendly city and the many facets of this is crucial in identifying whether and how current policies can adapt to make Sheffield a better place to grow older in.



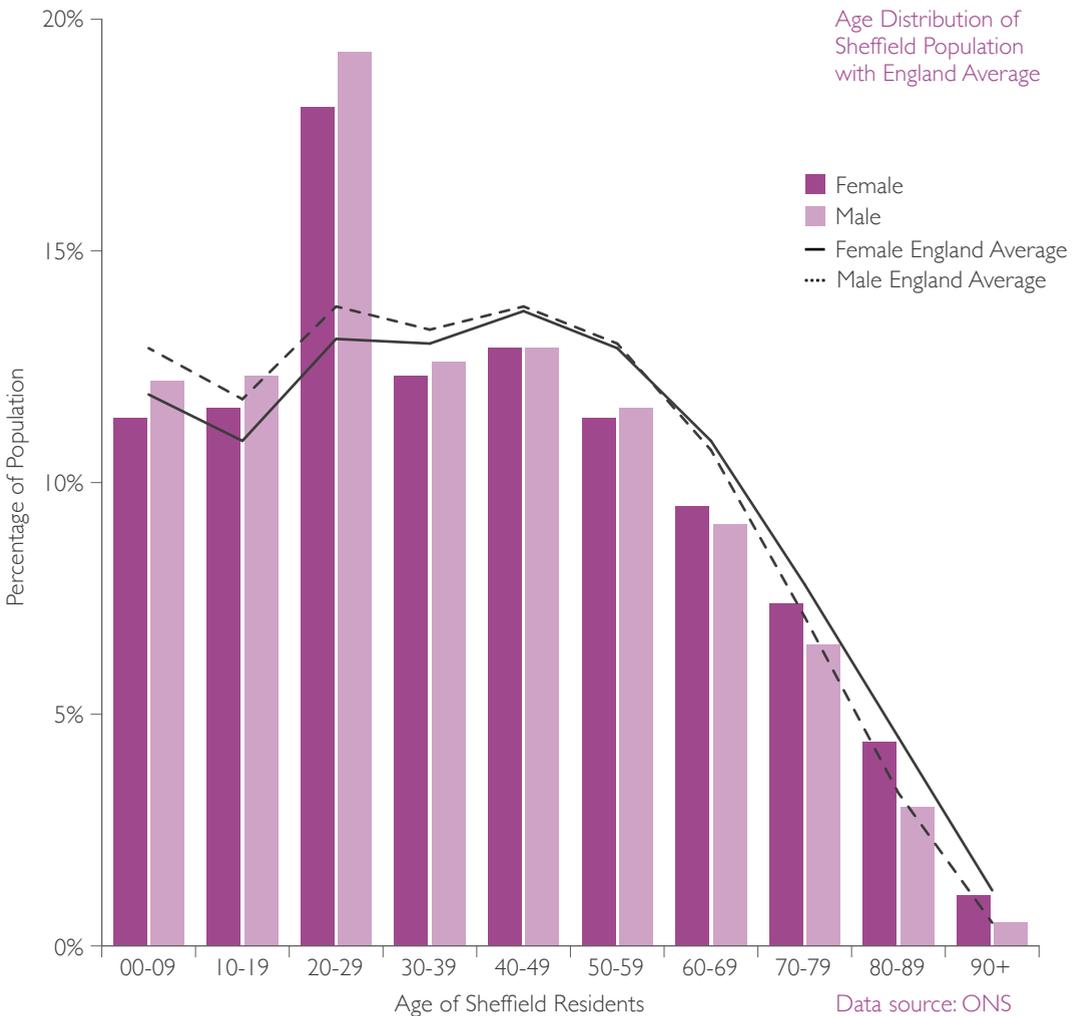
Photography by:
Cover: Ian Spooner
Left: Dan Cook

Photograph by:
James Bolton



The Demographic Position

Those over 50 years of age and normally described as the older population comprise nearly one third of the total population of Sheffield. This is slightly higher than other Core Cities, but lower than England as a whole at 35%. Sheffield is a diverse city in terms of its ethnic mix. An estimated 5% of the population aged over 50 have a black or minority ethnic (BME) origin. This population will become increasingly diverse over the coming decades, reflecting changes in the overall population of the city.



Photograph by:
Ian Spooner

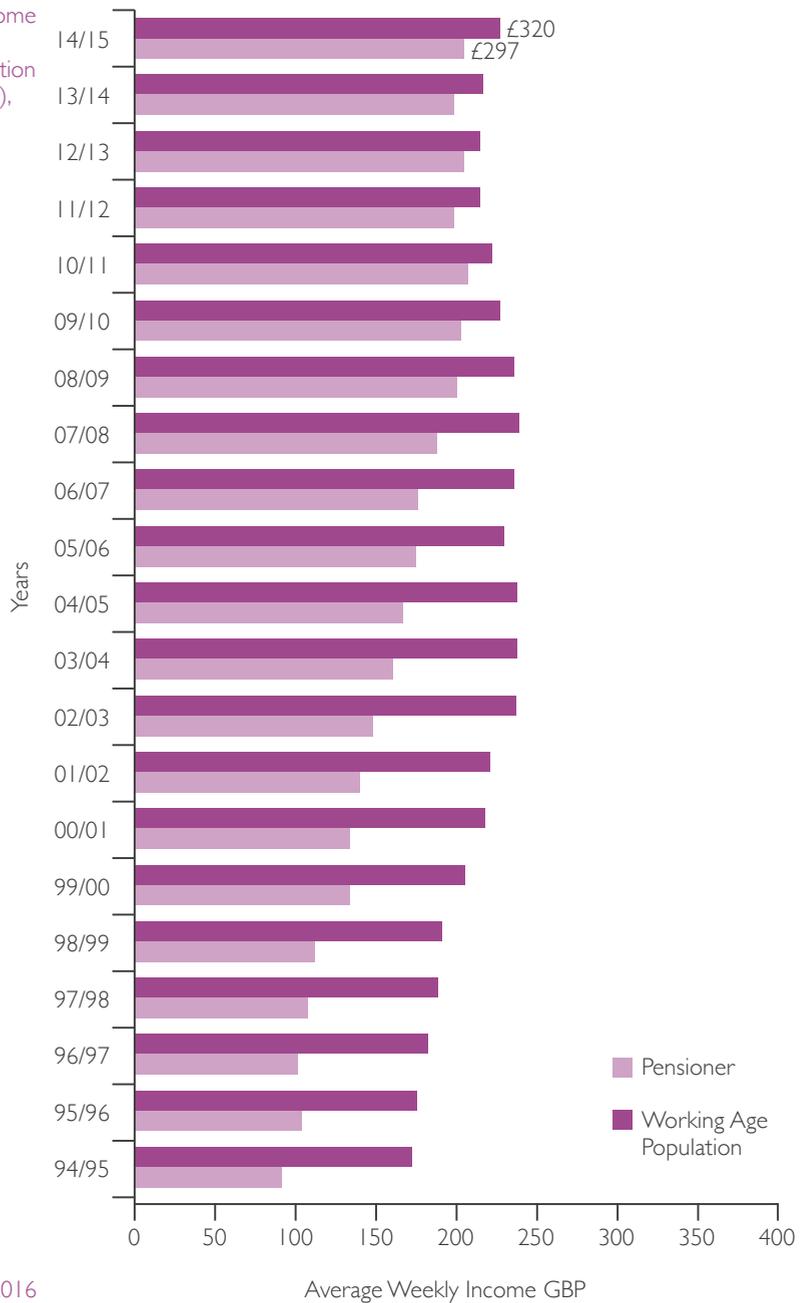


Doing Well?

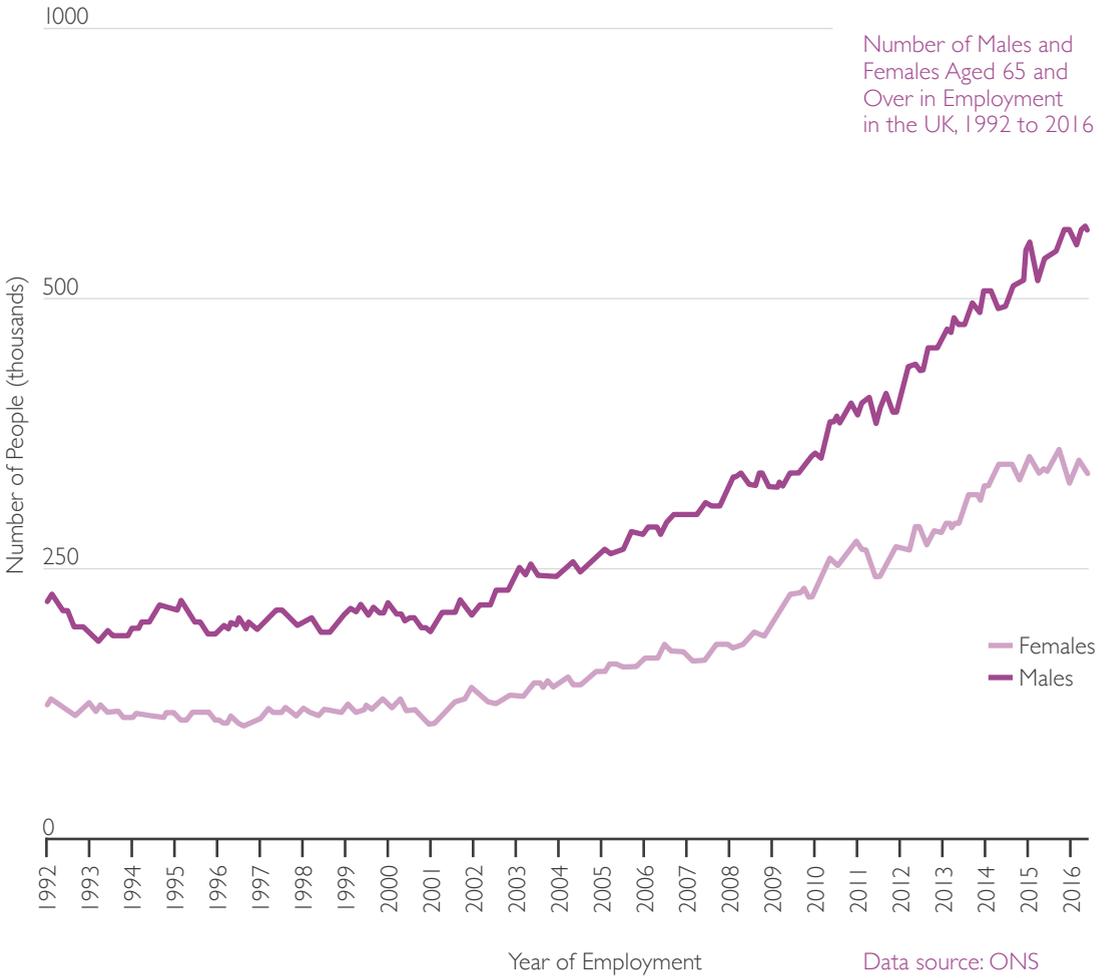
The Department for Work and Pensions provides some comparative data on pensioner incomes. It gives a national context and regional comparisons and provides an indication of the direction of travel locally. There are wide regional disparities in median incomes; lowest in Wales, West Midlands and the North East followed by Yorkshire and Humberside. This data does not account for those not in receipt of a State Pension, but adequately describes income trends over time. Generally speaking, pensioner incomes from all sources have, comparatively, risen. For example, in 1994/5 the median net income per week of a pensioner was 38% lower than that of the working-age population. By 2014/15, this had closed to 7% lower. Pensioners over 75 tend to have lower median weekly incomes (£257) than those under 75 (£348). Those under 75 who have reached State Pension age have the highest median income of £363 a week. These trends are largely due to a combination of better occupational and private pensions, the benefits of widespread use of occupational pension schemes and the rise in the number of people in paid employment after receipt of a pension. Historical gender-based trends are mirrored within the current pensioner population, with couples' incomes being twice that of single pensioners and single men having significantly higher incomes than single women. Much has been written about these continuing disparities, particularly the effects of the raising of women's state pension age to reach that of men's.

Over the past decade, those pensioners in paid employment has increased from 8% to 13%. In recent years, there has been a substantial narrowing of the gap between the median income of those in paid employment and below State Pension age and pensioners. The difference is now 7%. Pensioner incomes have risen, largely due to the combination of factors mentioned above.

Average Weekly Income of Pensioners and Working-Age Population in 2014/15 Prices (£), using Unequalised Income



Data source: DWP 2016



Data source: ONS
Labour Market Statistics,
2016

Employment in Later Life

18. Grandparents Plus and Sheffield 50 plus, Being a grandparent in Sheffield today, 2014

Employment is a key factor in maintaining both health and living standards. Good-quality paid employment has a positive influence on health, but so does unpaid voluntary work including the support given by many older people to enable their sons and daughters with children to continue in employment. A recent survey conducted by Grandparents Plus and Sheffield 50+¹⁸ highlighted this key caring role that grandparents in Sheffield provide for their children and grandchildren. Most of those providing such care are not in paid work or are unemployed. For the UK as a whole, there were 1.19 million people aged 65 and over in employment in the period from May to July 2016 (10.4% of people in this age group). Comparing this to when records first began, in the period for March to May 1992, only 478,000 people aged 65 and over (5.5%) were in employment. This trend is likely to be mirrored in Sheffield.

Looking more closely at this older cohort, it is clear that the numbers of people in employment over 65 is increasing. The reasons behind this trend are many and include the legislation from October 2011, which prevented employers from compulsorily retiring workers once they reached 65. Another factor is the change to the State Pension ages mentioned above and the need, financial or otherwise, to continue to be in paid work. The latest data shows that there were 742,000 men and 448,000 women aged 65 and over in employment in the UK. This compares with 301,000 men aged 65 and over in employment and 177,000 women when records first began. The 65 and over age group accounted for 22% of all part-time self-employment in 2015, up from 14% in 2001. Almost half of those aged over 70 in employment were self-employed in 2015.

‘Good-quality paid employment has a positive influence on health, but so does unpaid voluntary work including the support given by many older people to enable their sons and daughters with children to continue in employment’



Photograph by:
Ian Spooner

Ageing Well?

As stated earlier, Sheffield's older population is not homogenous. What the data tells us about ageing is that it is variable across the population.

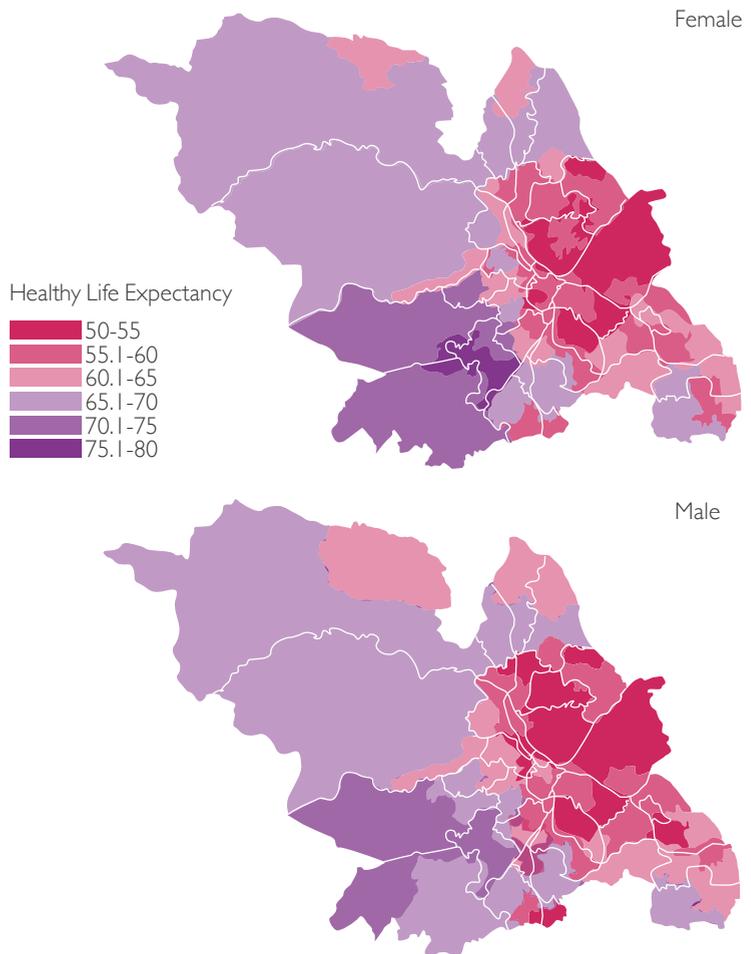
Whilst life expectancy (LE) across the country, and in Sheffield, is rising as a result of public health initiatives and better health care, healthy life expectancy (HLE) is beginning to lag behind. Sheffield does better than the national average on some indicators, such as people with hip or knee osteoarthritis. Sheffield also does better than similar cities with regard to some other indicators, such as the rate of sight loss due to macular degeneration, life expectancy at 54 for men and disability-free life expectancy for men. The overall picture, however, is as the Sheffield Fairness Commission reported four years ago: on average, people in the city, women in particular, are ageing less well than the national average. The gap in healthy life expectancy between the least and most deprived parts of the city are 20 years for men and 25 years for women. Preventable deaths follow this pattern of affluence and deprivation and are higher than the national average. This means that, on average in Sheffield, men have 18 years of poor health and women 22 years.

Similarly to most major cities, Sheffield is below the England average on a number of key indicators:

- Life expectancy at birth (men and women)
- Life expectancy at 65 (men and women)
- Proportion of life spent in 'good' health (men and women)
- Disability-free life expectancy at 65 (men and women)
- Health-related quality of life for those 65 and over (men and women)

In addition, Sheffield has a higher than average proportion of those aged 65 and over who are not in good health and of those whose daily activities are limited by ill health or disability. The city ranks in the bottom fifth of authorities for the prevalence of heart failure, stroke and heart attacks. If Sheffield could raise the ageing well rate among the least well-off to that of the better-off, hundreds of lives would be saved and many of the chronic conditions that restrict people in later life and reduce their quality of life would be prevented.

Male and Female
Healthy Life Expectancy



Data source: ONS Life Expectancies 2016

‘Our goal must be to create an ageing-friendly Sheffield where people age well and maintain the highest possible level of activity, independence and quality of life throughout their life’

Making Sheffield Ageing-Friendly

Like most other Core Cities, our goal must be to create an ageing-friendly Sheffield where people age well and maintain the highest possible level of activity, independence and quality of life throughout their life. To do so, we have to stop thinking about ‘ageing’ as a status and to accept it as a process. By doing so we will reduce the potential for long-term ill health in later years and consequently reduce those health inequalities that blight our city. We should want Sheffield to be a World Health Organisation (WHO) ‘age-friendly city’ where decisions are taken for the long-term, are intended to prevent future problems, and take full consideration of the implications for people living in the city both at present and in the future. Active ageing is internationally recognised as the best approach to making places ageing-friendly and in helping people and communities experience healthy, active lives. The WHO describes active ageing as follows:

Active ageing applies to both individuals and population groups. It allows people to realise their potential for physical, social and mental wellbeing throughout the life course and to participate in society according to their needs, desires and capacities, whilst providing them with adequate protection, security and care when they require assistance¹⁹.

19. www.who.int/ageing/active_ageing

Photograph by:
Ian Spooner





A Fair And Just City

Debbie Mathews
(Manor & Castle Development Trust)

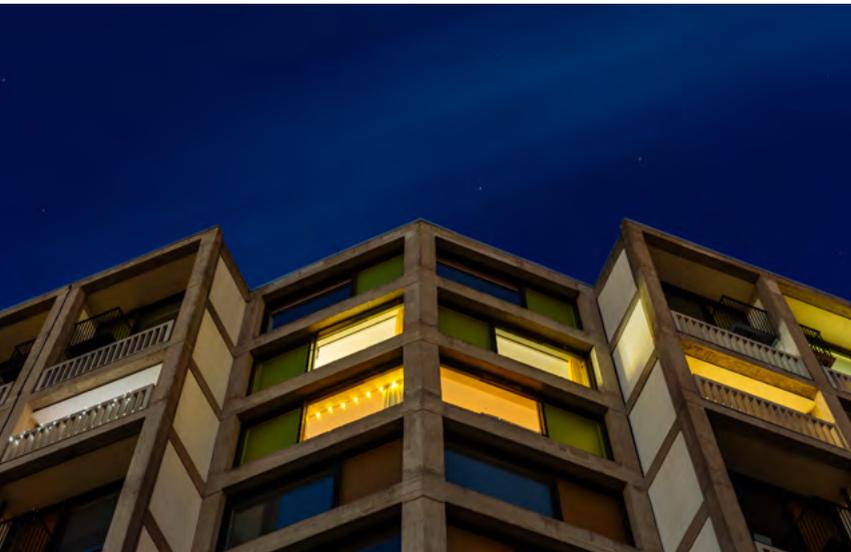
A Fair and Just City

Is Sheffield becoming a more fair and just city? Sheffield has always taken the challenge of addressing inequalities seriously. A testament to this city's values is the hard work and dedication of volunteers in Sheffield's communities. In Sheffield, the leadership, across the voluntary, public and private sectors, has made a bold and determined commitment to pursue a vision and campaign for Sheffield to become a fair city.

In 2013, Sheffield's Fairness Commission published its report, which was structured across eight themes, with actions that needed to be taken if Sheffield was to become a fair and just city. The then Sheffield Executive Board undertook an exercise in 2014, looking ahead to 2035 and scoping what we wanted the future of Sheffield to look like. As part of that exercise there was a bold vision for Sheffield:

Living Together - Sheffield 2035. A Fair City avoiding large social and economic disparities with a focus on policy and actions that will afford the greatest good to the most people, promote equality and care for the most vulnerable²⁰.

20. Sheffield Executive Board, Sheffield 2035 – A Cat Among the Pigeons, 2014



Photography by:
Cover: Ian Spooner
Left: Will Anderson

Progress in achieving these ambitions in Sheffield is clearly mixed and sits within the context of the economic and social challenges posed by globalisation and national government policy. Both of these arguably contribute to the inequalities we see growing today across the country and which are documented throughout this chapter and in previous State of Sheffield reports. There is growing recognition that to succeed as a city, we need to keep working towards an aim where all benefit from economic growth.

Evidence of Poverty in 2017

As in most major cities across the country, we can see social and economic injustices in our communities every day and data from a range of sources show how inequalities are growing throughout the UK.

Sheffield's Child Poverty report of October 2016 shows 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% of UK median, has increased. In 2012/13, the figure was 22.7% and was a downward trend from 2006/7. In line with other Core City and national trends, the most up-to-date data (August 2014) shows an increase, with 24.7% of children recorded as living in poverty in Sheffield. However, the figure masks the wide and well-documented variation between different parts of Sheffield, reflecting the growing concern of increased differences. In Ecclesall ward, 3.3% of children were living in poverty, whilst in Firth Park the figure was 14 times higher at 42.9% of children. The overall proportion of children in the UK living in low-income families increased from 18.2% in 2013 to 20% in 2014. Reflecting this national picture, in 2014, 13 of the Sheffield's 28 wards had more than 20% of children living in relative poverty.

There are clearly multiple causes of child poverty. However, it is likely that national welfare reforms are a significant driver of changes seen in levels of child poverty. A lower benefit cap that limits the amount of

income an out-of-work family can receive in benefits took effect in January 2017, taking the number of households in Sheffield affected by the cap from 113 to an estimated 900 households. In total, those households contain 3446 children²¹. National and local partners across the city have come together to address the impacts of welfare reform on residents in the city, to share good practice, identify issues and respond collectively, including through provision of information, advice and support. For example, Sheffield City Council invested in Sheffield Citizens Advice, to provide advice and advocacy to those seeking emergency food aid in four of the most used food banks in the city. This investment has since increased to cover nine food banks.

21. Sheffield City Council, Report to Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee, 2016

New food banks have been set up over the last three years to meet identified needs in communities. There is anecdotal evidence from the Sheffield Food Bank Network that much of the increase in demand can be attributed to benefit delays, benefit sanctions and indebtedness. Information from the S2 Food Bank, set up in 2013, shows that demand for food parcels in the first three months of 2016 had already reached the same level as seen across the whole of 2015. Recently published data from the Trussell Trust echoes this local evidence at a national scale, with benefit delays and increased indebtedness compounding people's financial problems²².

22. www.trusselltrust.org/news-and-blog/latest-stats/

Fuel poverty has become an increasing issue for people across the country. Of the Core Cities, Sheffield had the lowest percentage of households in fuel poverty in 2013 and was the closest to the England average of 10.4%. Fuel poverty had reduced by 0.4% in Sheffield between 2012 and 2013, suggesting interventions were having a positive impact. However, alongside other Core Cities such as Leeds, Bristol and Newcastle, Sheffield has seen a significant increase in fuel poverty in the latest figures (2014), with 12.4% of households now identified as being in fuel poverty. Through the Big Sheffield Switch programme, the city has undertaken five rounds of collective energy buying to assist local residents to save money on fuel and become more resilient to financial challenges, with the average household saving around £300 per year.

‘There is growing recognition that to succeed as a city, we need to keep working towards an aim where all benefit from economic growth’

It is well-known that financial pressure also impacts on people's health and health inequalities. The Director of Public Health (DPH) for Sheffield clearly illustrated in his 2016 report²³ that socio-economic factors, unemployment, lack of income and poor educational attainment account for 40% of people's health outcomes, with 60% being lifestyle factors. In Sheffield, health and wellbeing outcomes measured by life expectancy and healthy life expectancy vary hugely between wards. There has been a long-standing awareness of the health inequalities within Sheffield as being both geographic, with the very well documented East/West divide, and within and across communities, with those from disadvantaged and the most marginalised communities being the most affected. A wider discussion of some of these issues can be found in the Ageing-Friendly City section of this report.

23. Director of Public Health for Sheffield, A Matter of Life and Healthy Life, 2016



Photograph by:
Kirsten Johnston
Jubilee Food Bank

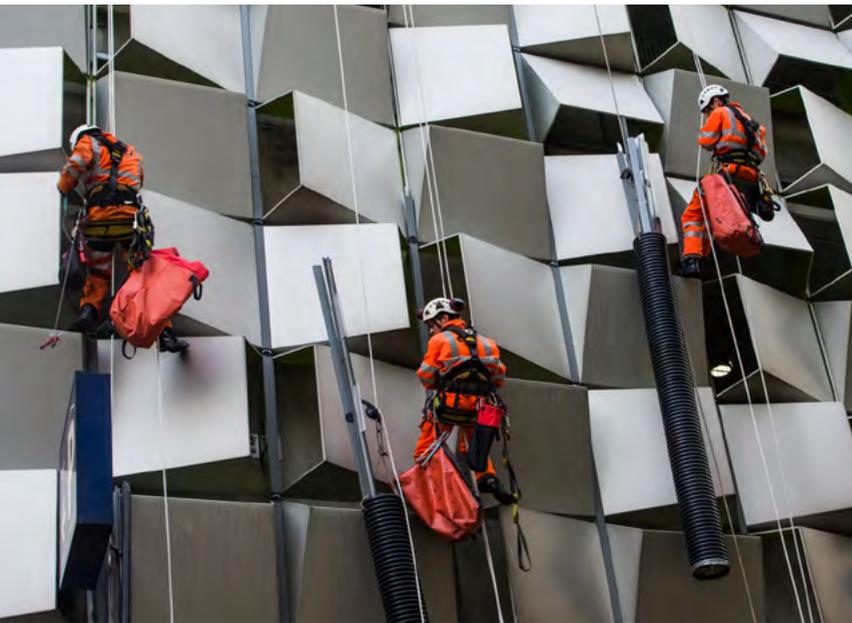
Inequalities in the City

The Sheffield Health and Wellbeing Board has identified health inequalities as one of its priorities. This is because the national and international picture has demonstrated that there are identifiable impacts of not reducing health inequalities and poverty including workforce productivity, crime and anti-social behaviour, and reduced community cohesion.

One of the key messages from the DPH Report 2016 is that whilst life expectancy for men and women has improved, the difference between communities remains substantial. There is a ten-year difference in life expectancy for men between the most and least deprived wards, and for women that gap is seven years. In Sheffield, 20% of deaths are considered preventable, higher than the England average. The difference between Sheffield and England's premature death rates for men is 9% and for women, 4%. In Sheffield, those premature deaths are the result of high blood pressure, high cholesterol, smoking, alcohol consumption and lack of physical activity. The gap between the richest and poorest in society is not the only inequality; people with learning difficulties or mental illness are also at high risk of premature death compared to the general population and are more likely to be unemployed, have low incomes, and face social isolation and financial exclusion. They are less likely to access health services for conditions other than their mental health issues and will often have poor lifestyles, related to access to healthy food, physical activity and for some people, issues with alcohol, tobacco and drug dependencies.

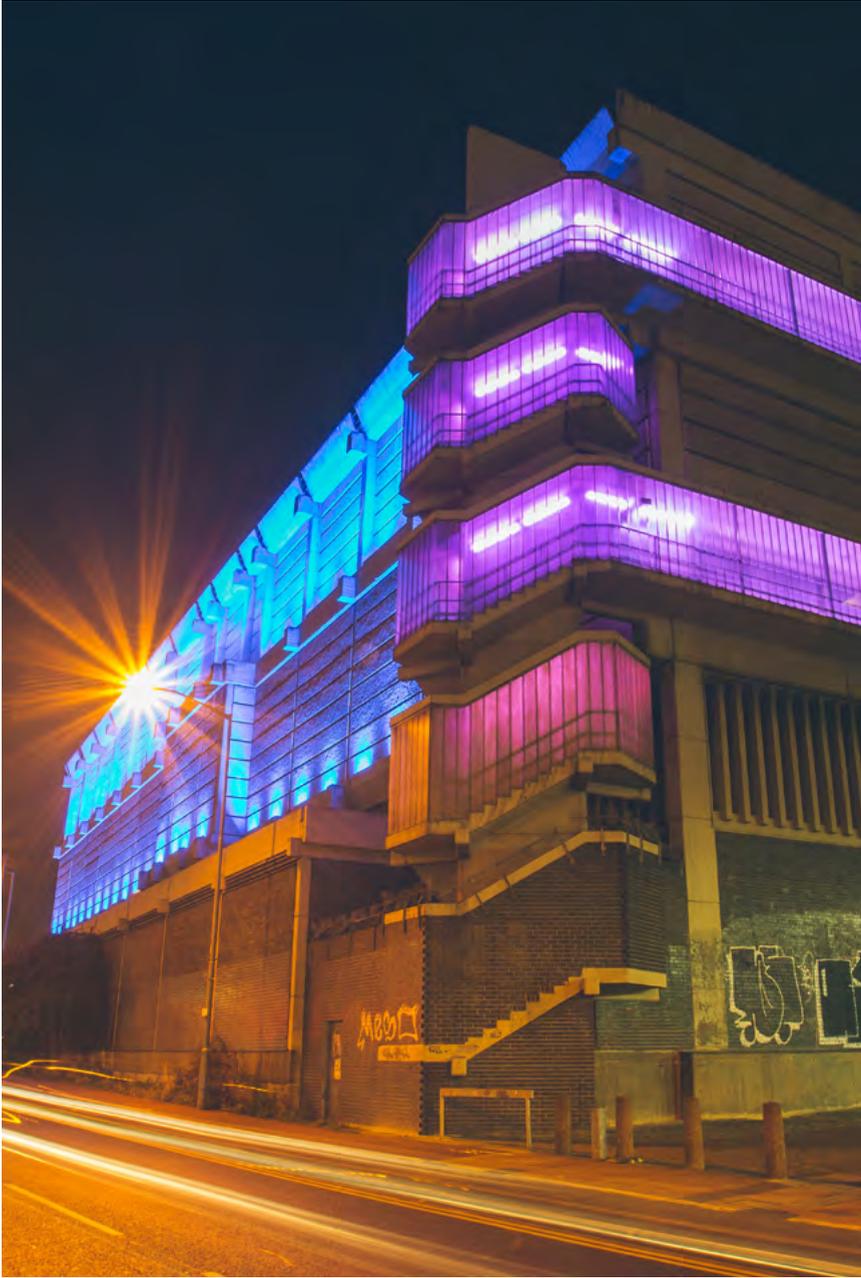
There is a long-accepted correlation between poor educational attainment, poor health outcomes and poverty that impacts on people's long-term prospects. In Sheffield, there has been significant improvement in the attainment of young people eligible for free school meals with the city closing the gap with the national average to just 1 percent by the age of 19. Furthermore, in 2013/14, 21% of Sheffield pupils with a free school meal entitlement progressed to higher education, an increase of 7% over the last five years.

The DPH Report 2016 reiterates the fact that people are on the whole healthier if they are in work. It also accepted that work is a route out of poverty. However, this depends on the nature of the work and being paid a fair wage. There is evidence of an increase in part-time, poorly paid and zero hours contracts that will not enable people to escape poverty and may increase stress within families and limit improvements to health outcomes. The ONS Labour Force Survey shows an increase in the proportion of people employed with a zero-hours contract from 2015 to 2016. The Fairness Commission identified access to high-quality jobs and pay as one of their themes. Sheffield leadership worked with the private sector company Gripple and the Chamber of Commerce to develop and launch the Fair Employer charter, which sets out how being a fair employer benefits the business. In addition, a number of major organisations in the city have committed to paying the Living Wage.



Photograph by:
Gareth Morgan

Photograph by:
Will Anderson



‘The city has undertaken five rounds of collective energy buying to assist local residents to save money’

Financial Security

Over indebtedness is growing both nationally and in our city. Many of Sheffield's residents, like citizens across the UK, are experiencing poverty and financial insecurity. This is affecting both those who are in work and not in work. Nationally, it is estimated that 8.8 million people are over- indebted. Debt charity StepChange reports significant increases in people seeking debt advice over the last year, with over 300,000 people seeking advice between January and June 2015, an 11% increase on the same period in 2014. In 2016, Yorkshire and Humber had the third highest levels of demand for debt advice of the 12 UK regions.

In Sheffield, the Council and stakeholders are developing a Financial Inclusion Strategy, to build on previous work. Sheffield Money, a not-for-profit local alternative to high-cost lenders and banks was launched in August 2015. Since launching, the organisation has received over 7000 enquiries and helped over 3000 people. Significant evidence has been gathered from those applying for loans: 83% of applicants have significant unsecured debt or significant credit outstanding. People aged between 24 to 35 years are the most likely to apply for loans and of those, 25% have defaulted debt²⁴.

Nationally those seeking debt advice are more likely to be renting from either social or increasingly, private landlords and are more likely to be working. The impact of the Housing and Planning Act is yet to be seen, but the potential implications are that there may be a further increase in the number of private rented landlords. Most social landlords take some steps to support their tenants to build financial capability and improve financial inclusion: important building blocks towards financial security. There is also anecdotal evidence that in communities in Sheffield facing greater levels of deprivation, illegal loan sharks are gaining ground. The National Trading Standards Illegal Money Lending Team have identified S2 and S5 as two areas in Sheffield where they believe illegal money lending is an issue, and are working with local stakeholders to increase awareness of the issue. A local food bank has reported two cases of victims of illegal loan sharks accessing emergency food supplies as a direct result of their loans.

24. Sheffield City Council, Financial Inclusion Strategy (draft), 2016



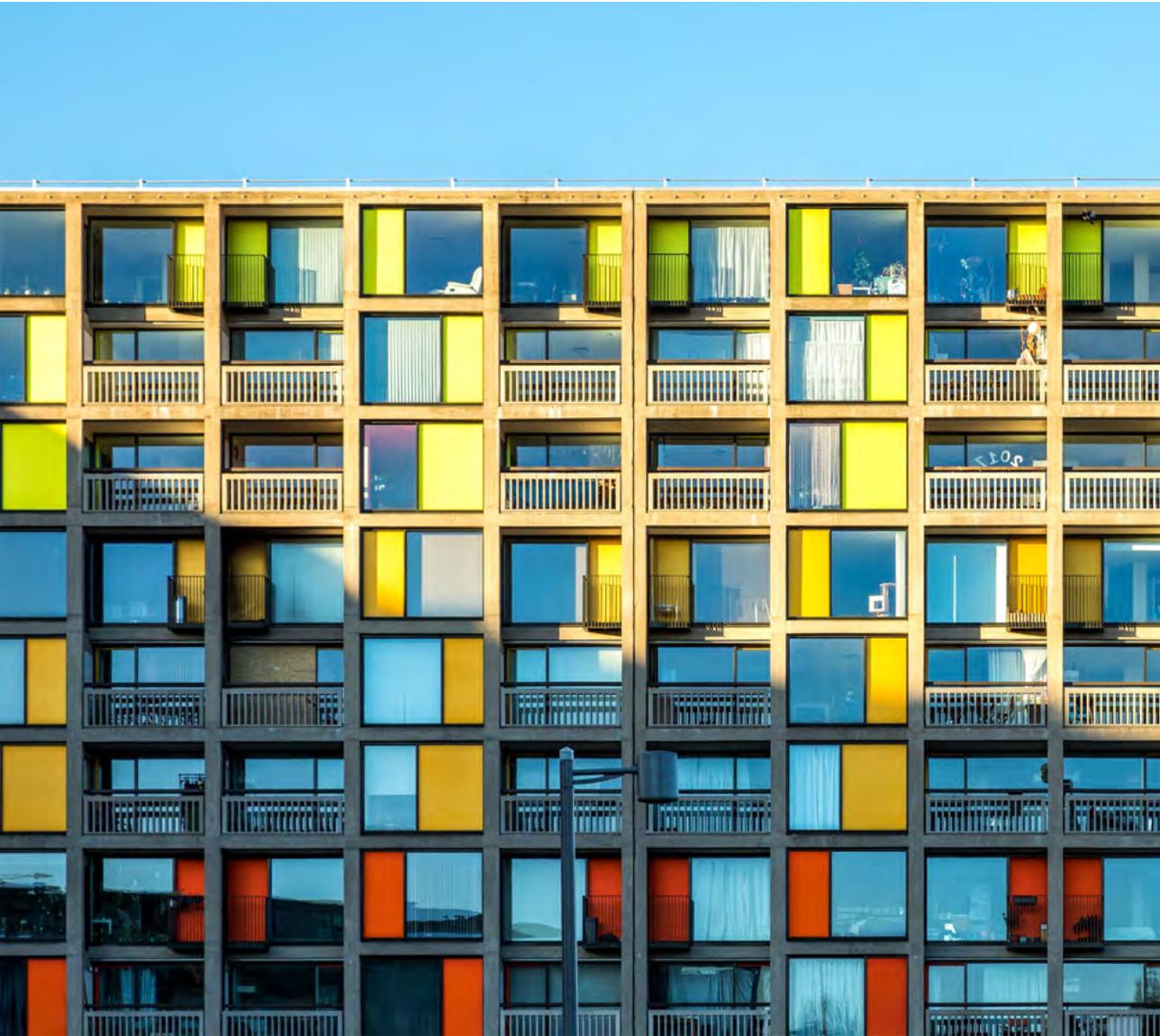
Photograph by:
Will Anderson

Community Cohesion

25. Home Office,
Hate Crime Statistics
2015-16

Communities across the country are increasingly showing the fractures created by inequality, poverty and the perceived competition for scarce resources. Nationally there has been a reported increase in hate crime of 19% over the last year, the majority of which were racist incidents²⁵. Whilst there is no local data to compare to the Home Office figures, it is an issue to be aware of as we work to maintain community cohesion in Sheffield.

Sheffield is a growing city and is a preferred choice of a place to live for an increasing number of people. The reputation of Sheffield as a safe and welcoming city for people to move to is therefore an important factor and why looking at inequalities through a community cohesion lens is so important. In communities that are already facing disadvantage and where services are under increasing pressure as a result of austerity, new arrivals can become the focus of the established communities' frustrations. The perception that increasingly scarce resources are being diverted at the expense of the existing community is a frequent conclusion. Understanding the dynamics that exist and can be created in communities that are already facing inequalities in the context of Sheffield's growing inward migration is important, in order to mitigate the risks of conflict within communities. In this context, fostering community resilience, and supporting and nurturing the many assets and resources within our neighbourhoods, will also remain a vital task for partners across the city.



Photograph by:
James Bolton

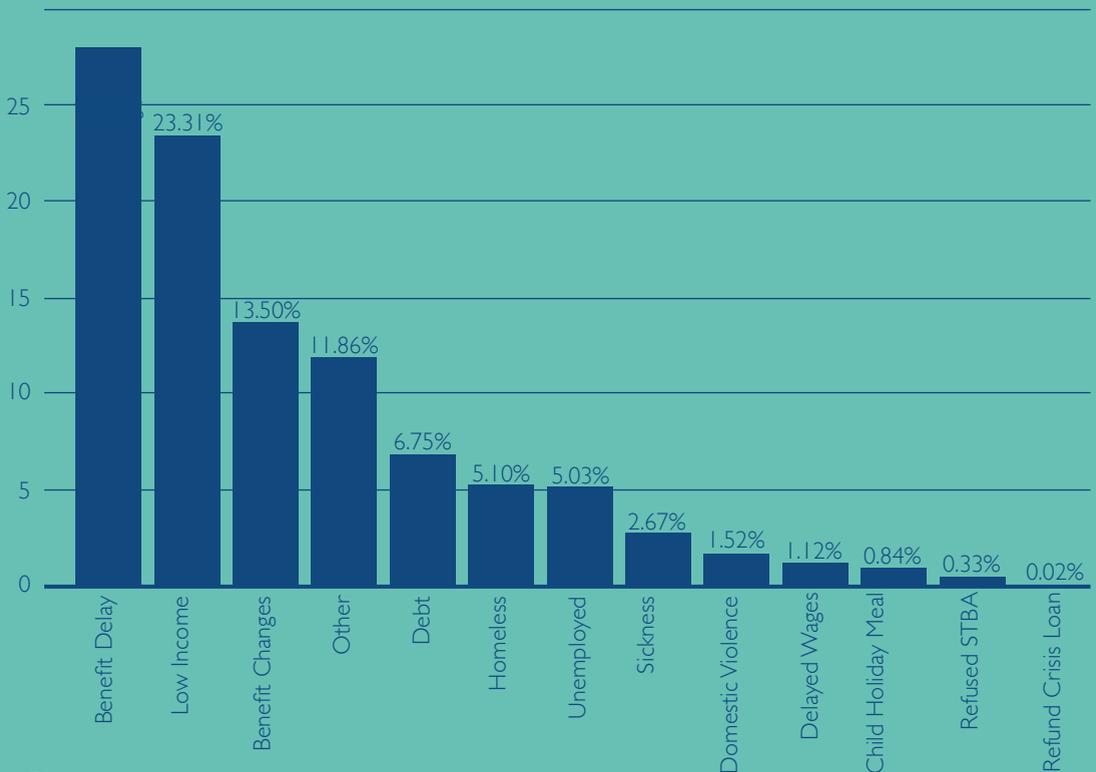


Food Bank Case Study

There are currently eighteen food banks in Sheffield; four are operated by the Trussell Trust, the others are independent. Food banks have been set up within local communities where needs have been identified by concerned people, seeing their neighbours facing real hardship and real hunger.

National food bank statistics gathered by the Trussell Trust for 2015/16²⁶ show there are diverse reasons why people access three-day emergency food supplies. Information from food banks in Sheffield shows a very similar pattern with benefit delays, low income and benefit changes being the most common reasons for accessing food bank services.

26. www.trusselltrust.org/news-and-blog/latest-stats



Data source:
The Trussell Trust, 2016

A Day in the Life of an S2 Food Bank Duty Manager

I have been involved in the S2 Food Bank since it was set up and have become more involved over the three years. I never thought I would see the need for Food Banks in my life time but people are genuinely going hungry and I can't sit back and not do something. The demands on the Food Bank have grown particularly in the last 12 months having enough food on the shelves is an ongoing challenge.

A typical day starts...opening up the store room, checking what food we have and if there have been donations of fresh food, checking the best before dates — is there enough to meet the numbers we are expecting. Fresh food is always a bonus. We focus on the basics; tins, packets and long life products so anything fresh; vegetables, fruit, meat, cheese is a bonus.

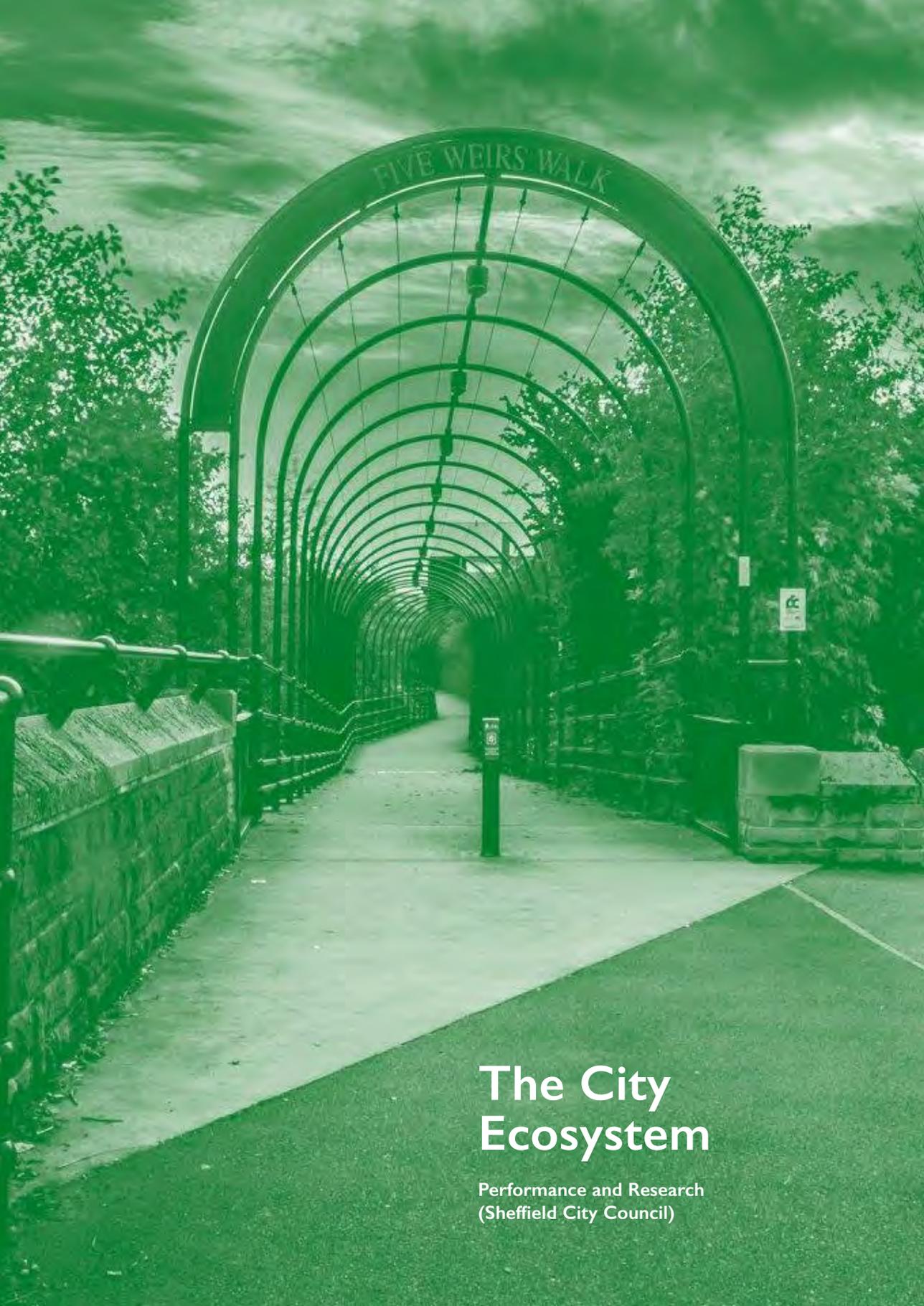
I set up the centre, making sure the waiting area is comfortable, tea, coffee, biscuits are ready for people when they arrive. We can spot those who are starving and try to give them something there and then — peanut butter sandwiches, a drink — whilst they wait to be interviewed and then sorted out with their parcel. The interview area is as private as we can make it in a hall. We also have a separate space where they can see our CAB worker who can help with checking benefits and appeals.

We have 22 volunteers over 3 sessions they are great, so committed, coming to help week after week. When the day's team arrives we have a meeting, making sure everyone knows what food stocks there are and any other information — feedback from other duty managers — we sometimes have difficult clients who we need to be aware of.

The clients get some choice from the list and we try to accommodate as best we can — where there are children we give extras; chocolate, biscuits or crisps — treats really. We try to offer that bit more — clients can use our phone to make GP appointments, ring their social worker, sort out a housing issue. It's the least we can do. We don't have the capacity to support them other than signposting.

We recently had a young man turn up, he was clearly suffering from anxiety and depression and was reluctant to come in — when he did come in it turned out he had arrived from another city, his benefits were delayed and he had not eaten for 4 days. We fed him sandwiches there and then and by the time we had talked to him and provided him with his parcels he was calmer and less on edge.

The other side of the coin is the generosity of the people of Sheffield — without donations of food and money we would not be able to deliver the services we do — I have talked to people who have questioned the need for food banks and when I have explained our story they usually end up donating or even in some cases volunteering!



The City Ecosystem

Performance and Research
(Sheffield City Council)

The City Ecosystem

Sheffield is one of the greenest cities in the UK and Europe due in part to the area of the Peak District National Park, which falls within the city boundary, alongside the woodlands, networks of parks and other green spaces found throughout the city. The city has a significant outdoor focus and rates as the leading city for those wanting a lifestyle that combines city and countryside²⁷. Residents and visitors are attracted to the wide range of climbing, running, walking and cycling opportunities; the moors, ancient woodlands, rivers and public parks, and urban climbing.

This section considers Sheffield and its natural environment, with a particular focus on what makes the city a healthy and enjoyable place to live, work in or visit. Thinking of the city as an ecosystem, a complex interaction between people and nature, is a useful way to illustrate how the natural environment has significant influence on our health, happiness and economic prosperity.

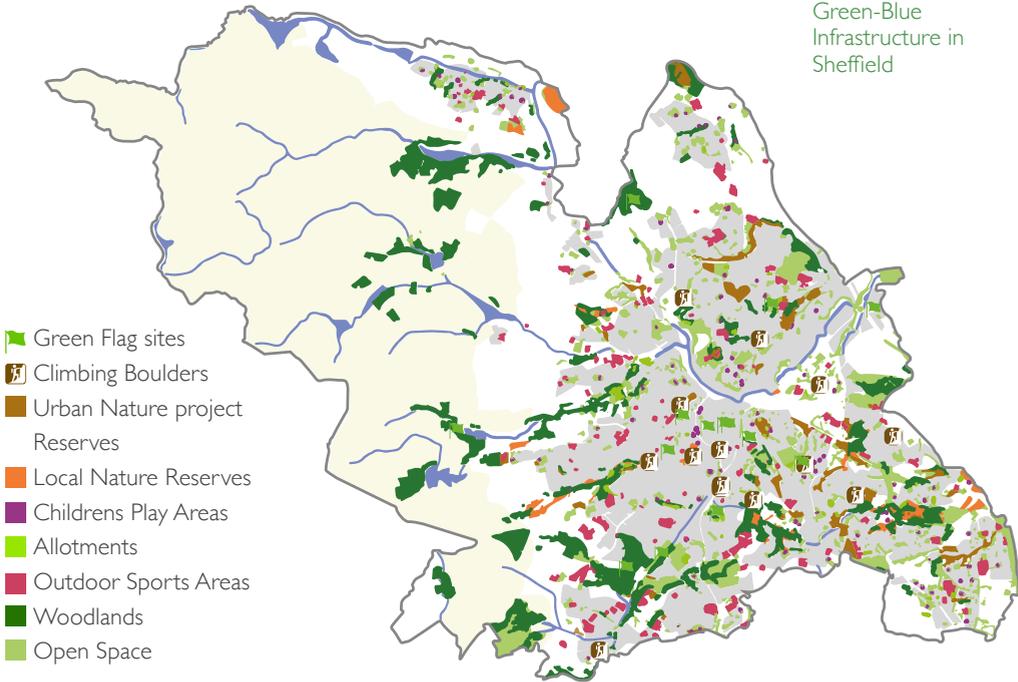
The Sheffield Green Commission Report launched in February 2016 sets out four priorities for ensuring that Sheffield is a smart, sustainable city of the future. These priorities (Connected City, Transformative Energy, European Green City and Learning City) provide a useful framework when considering the current state of the city and how it functions as an ecosystem in 2017.

27. www.countryfile.com/news/sheffield-voted-best-uk-city-countryside-lovers



Photography by:
Cover: Philip Joel
Left: Philip Joel

Green-Blue Infrastructure in Sheffield



- Green Flag sites
- Climbing Boulders
- Urban Nature project Reserves
- Local Nature Reserves
- Childrens Play Areas
- Allotments
- Outdoor Sports Areas
- Woodlands
- Open Space

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Ordnance Survey
100018816

28. Sheffield City Council, Trees and Woodlands Strategy (draft), 2016

29. www.sheffieldnewsroom.co.uk/smokefreeplaygrounds/

Green-Blue Infrastructure

Many people in Sheffield have strong connections with their natural environment. The city's urban parks, woodlands and countryside receive over 25 million visits each year²⁸. The recent introduction of smoke-free playgrounds following public consultation on the issue further encourages the use of these areas²⁹. In a recent study by the Woodland Trust looking at public access to woodlands, Sheffield was shown to have significantly better access than the national average, out-performing other Core Cities with over 45% of people able to access a 2 Ha woodland site within 500m and over 90% having a larger 20 Ha site within 4km. There has been a noticeable increase in use and demand for some types of greenspace in Sheffield in recent years. Over the last five years, four new allotment sites with 130 additional allotment plots have been opened to increase opportunities for people

to grow their own fruit and vegetables in the city. Sheffield now has over 70 allotment sites with over 3000 allotment plots, equivalent to around 1 allotment plot for every 80 households. The installation of mountain bike trails through a partnership between Sheffield City Council, private companies and crowd funding at Parkwood Springs and Lady Canning's Plantation are rapidly becoming popular routes within the city. Volunteer-organised parkrun events have grown substantially in Sheffield in the last three years. There are now five weekly, Saturday morning 5 km events across the city attracting over 1200 people each week, this is explored more fully in the parkrun case study.

At the heart of the Outdoor City is the understanding that a city's environment is a key part of its economic sustainability³⁰. The European Green City priority of the Sheffield Green Commission identifies the importance of the multi-functional role of green-blue infrastructure in the city including; carbon storage, flood risk and air quality mitigation, noise reduction and urban cooling. Sheffield has an extensive range of natural and greenspaces including woodlands, sport pitches, parks, allotments and street trees, these resources are significant and spread across the city. Extensions to existing green-blue infrastructure in the city have been developing over the last decade, including the Grey to Green projects in the city centre. The Sheffield Green Roof Centre, set up in 2007 as a joint venture between the University of Sheffield, Groundwork Sheffield and the four South Yorkshire local authorities is the leading green roof research establishment in the UK. Sheffield has developed a substantial and increasing green roof infrastructure with upwards of 120 roofs across the city.

30. www.theoutdoorcity.co.uk

Sustainable and Active Travel

Being able to spend recreation time in the outdoors is important for many people, allowing them to recharge from daily life and use exercise as a way to achieve good health and wellbeing. However, in many European cities,

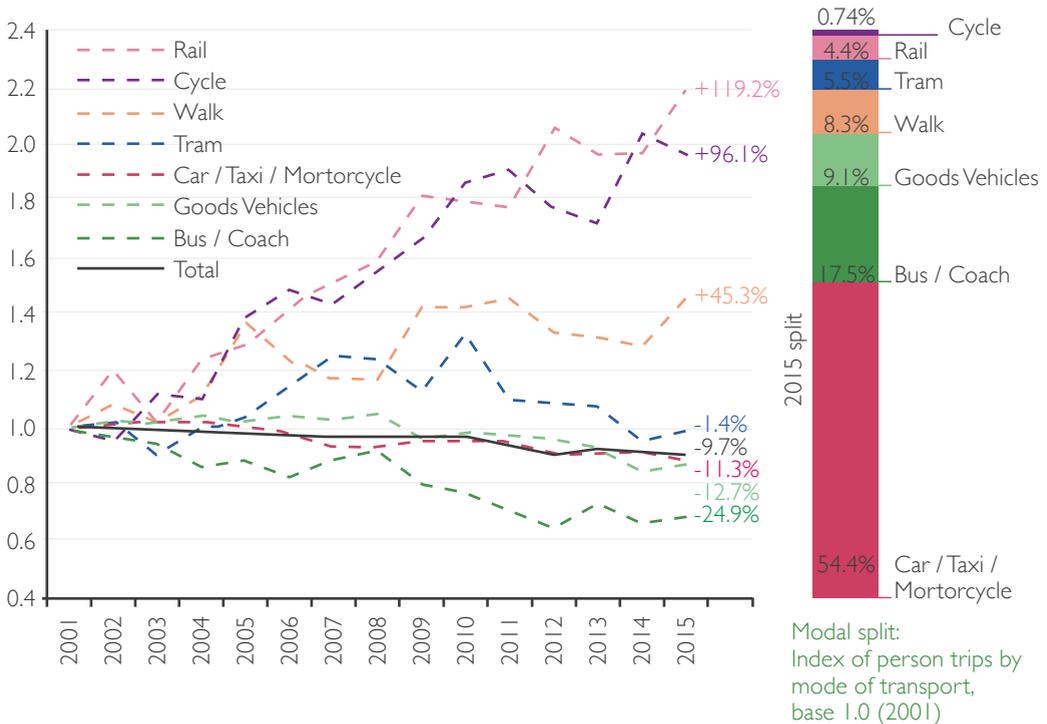
‘Sheffield has developed a substantial and increasing green roof infrastructure with upwards of 120 roofs across the city’

most notably Copenhagen and Amsterdam, and increasingly in the UK, riding a bike or walking is part of everyday life and a way to travel around the city to get to work or school or as one link in a longer journey. As discussed in the ‘Vibrant Economy’ section, good-quality transport connections are a key part of economic sustainability for the city and the wider Sheffield City Region. Active travel³¹ is an important part of sustainable transport in Sheffield. Incorporating active travel into everyday life has many positive impacts including those on people’s health through increased aerobic activity and on air quality by reducing motorised vehicle journeys.

The method of transport people choose to make journeys around the city (modal choice) has been changing over the last 15 years. National Highways and Transport surveys show that since 2001 there has been a reduction in the amount of journeys taken using a bus or car as a proportion of all journeys taken in Sheffield³². Cycling and walking rates have increased by 96% and 45%

31. Walking or cycling as an alternative to motorised transport for the purpose of making everyday journeys

32. National Highways and Transport Survey, 2016



respectively, and train usage has increased by 119% over the same period. The development of a successful active travel approach to transportation within the city and the significant benefits this represents to health, air quality and resource consumption is dependent on the choices that people make, but it can be seen that Sheffield already has a positive basis from which to do this.

The most accessible active travel option is walking. The Active People Survey reports over 88% of people in Sheffield are active by walking, the second highest of the Core Cities. Within the city, over 53% of individuals walk five times a week, an increase of 19% over two years. The rates of utility walking (walking as a mode of transport, rather than an exercise or recreation activity) are more in line with other Core Cities and are around 4% higher than the England average. Within the Sheffield City Region, Sheffield sees higher rates of walking (up to a 10% difference) than other areas.

There has been a substantial increase in the proportion of journeys made by bicycle in Sheffield over the past fifteen years, which shows a positive trend to build upon. However, cycling rates remain low compared to national levels and rates seen in other Core Cities, with cycling accounting for less than 1% of all trips taken in Sheffield in 2015. The 2016 Active People Survey³³ reports 12% of people in Sheffield cycle on a monthly basis. This is only the fifth highest of the Core Cities, with Bristol and Nottingham both reporting over 18% of residents cycling within the last month. However, in Sheffield a greater proportion of people cycle for recreation or exercise, the worry being that the frequency of cycling as a mode of utility transportation is much lower than other Core Cities. Additionally, the gap between high and low cycling rates among Core Cities has been widening with Liverpool and Nottingham seeing substantial increases in cycling in recent years.

33. Sport England, Active People Survey, 2016

‘Within the city,
over 53% of
individuals walk
five times a week,
an increase of 9%
over two years’

34. South Yorkshire Local Transport Partnership, South Yorkshire Cycling Action Plan, 2015

35. www.nottinghampost.com

36. www.liverpoolecho.co.uk

37. www.theguardian.com

38. www.bristolpost.co.uk

39. www.betterbybike.info

Sheffield faces a significant challenge if it is to meet the ambition of 10% of all journeys being made by bicycle by 2025³⁴. The South Yorkshire Cycling Action Plan identifies a clear approach to realise this aim. Experience from other cities including Liverpool, Nottingham, Bristol, Copenhagen and Seville, where cycling rates have increased from a similar base and where a sustained cycling culture exists, can assist in this challenge. These factors include:

- Significant, sustained investments in cycle infrastructure, prioritisation of cycling corridors, multi-modal transit corridors and support for changing current infrastructure³⁵
- Lower speed limits along residential streets, increased spaces for bike parking and bike sharing schemes³⁶
- Regional and local ambition and investment³⁷, public support for bicycle infrastructure³⁸, knowledge networks³⁹ and data gathering and monitoring

One of the primary impacts of sustainable active travel is a reduction in the use of vehicles and therefore a reduction in emissions and improvements in air quality, which is currently a significant challenge for Sheffield, Core Cities and the UK as a whole.

Air Quality

Transport and the pollution from diesel vehicle engines is the largest cause of air quality issues and air pollution in Sheffield. Sheffield reflects the national picture, in that generally, air quality is improving. Air quality issues are not uniform across the city, however; areas near the motorway and within the busy urban centre have not improved, with some places seeing air quality worsening.

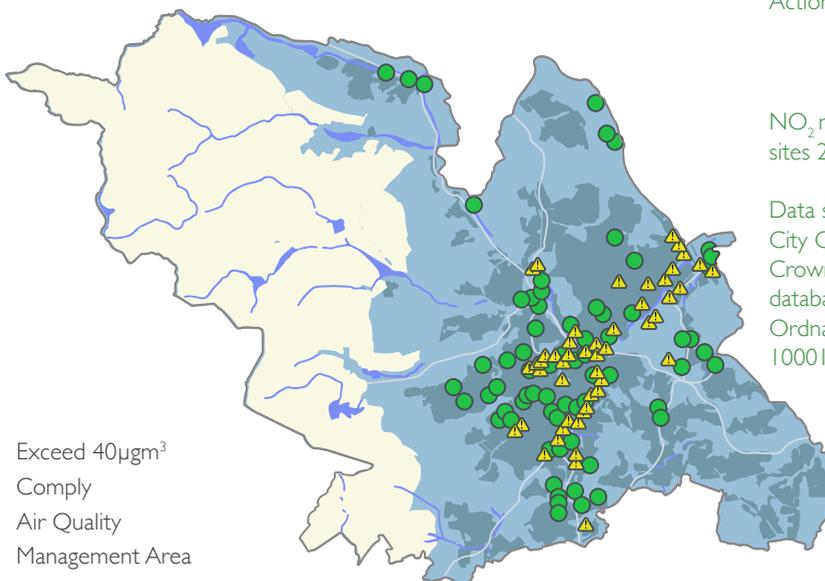
Alongside many other Core Cities, Sheffield currently breaches UK and European Union thresholds for air quality. Specific issues in Sheffield are nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and particulates (PM). The main reason for high levels of these pollutants is the use of diesel engines in stop-start urban conditions. In Sheffield, both NO₂ and fine

particulates (PM10) are monitored at key sites within the urban area. Monitoring of NO₂ is carried out at between 150 and 200 locations across the city each year. The number of monitoring locations with higher than the permitted levels of NO₂ (>40µgm³) has fluctuated since 2010. However, the latest data from 2015 shows 42% of locations are in exceedance of the permitted level. These sites are predominantly on routes that experience a high volume of diesel vehicles, particularly buses and taxis. Annual average levels of PM10 have been consistently below EU thresholds. Nevertheless, this masks daily average levels that exceed EU limits multiple times per year. Other Core Cities such as Birmingham and Bristol also have this pattern of emissions levels.

Nitrogen dioxide increases the symptoms of people suffering from lung diseases. Fine particulate matter can travel deep into the lungs causing inflammation and worsening of heart and lung diseases. Public Health England statistics show that the level of mortality attributable to particulate air pollution in Sheffield is similar to the England level and has been gradually reducing since 2010⁴⁰. It has been estimated that annually up to 500 premature deaths can be attributed to poor air quality in Sheffield⁴¹. The impact on life expectancy and health is unequal, with the effects suffered disproportionately by the young, the old and those with pre-existing conditions.

40. Public Health England, Health effects of air pollution, 2015

41. Sheffield City Council, Air Quality Action Plan 2015, 2012



NO₂ monitoring sites 2015

Data source: Sheffield City Council 2016
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 Ordnance Survey 100018816

Photography by:
Joe Horner

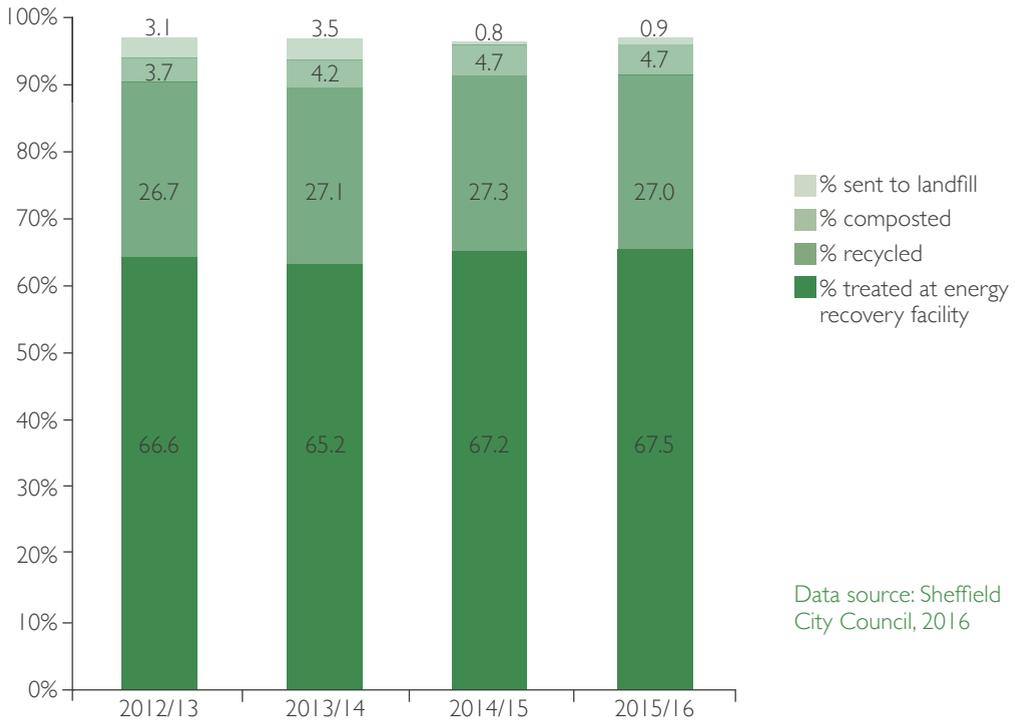


The Sheffield Air Quality Management Area includes the whole urban area of the city. Despite significant effort to complete actions, such as introduction of low emission hybrid buses, the latest engine technologies and public engagement activity including the Air Aware campaign, it is clear from the monitoring data that air quality in Sheffield has not improved and remains a significant issue that impacts on citizens' health and wellbeing and the overall prosperity of the city.

Waste and Recycling

The conservative and considered use of resources is an important part of maintaining a functioning city ecosystem, whether this is through reduced use of motor vehicles or increased re-use, recycling and composting of waste materials. Household waste in the city is managed through Sheffield’s Energy Recovery Facility. This enables the non-recyclable waste produced in Sheffield (over 200,000 tonnes per year) to be transformed into electricity and thermal energy, heating and cooling over 140 buildings and providing electricity to 22,000 homes. Waste produced in the city is processed within the city, resulting in fewer vehicle journeys and less transport emissions. Over the period 2012 to 2015, steady progress has been made on further reducing the proportion of household waste going to landfill in Sheffield.

Household waste disposal breakdown



The latest Defra statistics show that Sheffield has the lowest proportion of municipal waste sent to landfill of any authority in the Sheffield City Region and the second lowest compared to other Core Cities, with only Birmingham having a lower rate. However, recycling rates in Sheffield are 13.7% lower than the England average. Sheffield has had a stable recycling rate over the last five years of around 30%. Compared to other local authorities in the Sheffield City Region, this is the second lowest rate with most other authorities achieving rates of between 40 and 50% in 2014/15. Compared to the other Core Cities, Sheffield is the third lowest with only Liverpool and Birmingham with lower recycling rates.



Democracy and Engagement

Andy Buck (Sheffield Citizens Advice)

Democracy and Engagement

Sheffield has a long tradition of lively democracy, community and political action, and active citizenship. The city also has a healthy voluntary and community sector, with many people involved in shaping the futures of their communities.

The British Social Attitudes Survey 2015⁴² investigated attitudes to politics. It painted a picture in which at least two thirds of people in the UK are interested in politics, and about half of us regularly talk about politics. However, despite our interest, only 28% of people think they have any say in what the Government does, and an even smaller 23% think the Government cares much about what people think. One observation we can already make about the dramatic political events in 2016 is that the people of Sheffield came out in large numbers to have their say about the UK's membership of the EU, and that this represented a greater level of engagement than previous elections in recent years.

42. NatCen Social Research, British Social Attitudes 32, 2015



Photography by:

Cover: Ian Spooner
Left: Chris Pepper

In 2016, the EU referendum and United States presidential election were seismic political events, and many policy-makers are now considering the longer-term implications for the established political order. In terms of Brexit, which clearly means different things to different people in Sheffield, there are many unknowns, and a number of challenges and opportunities for the city. In particular, businesses in Sheffield, and our two universities, will be operating in a new environment, with particular uncertainties around funding, investment and the free movement of people. However, there will also be opportunities to forge new links, and explore new global trade and investment relationships. Sheffield has a strong foundation to build upon as a city which has long attracted global talent in business, education and research, with an international reputation as a good place to live, study and invest.

Across Europe, similar changes are afoot. At this point in time, there is very little data or evidence to help us understand what these implications might be, but this type of analysis is no doubt something that will feature in future State of Sheffield reports and other local and national commentaries on democracy, society and cohesion over the years to come.

The 2017 State of Sheffield report looks at what is happening to democracy and engagement in our city, and poses some of the questions that the city must consider if these are to be renewed and reinvigorated. Alongside electoral participation, we also explore the many other ways that people and communities participate in and contribute to decision making and activity in Sheffield. Sustaining and strengthening democracy and engagement is crucial and, equally importantly, possible if the city's institutions become more open, actively engage and respond to citizens, and enable people to help shape their and the city's future.

‘There is very clearly a public appetite to participate in consultation, be involved in the co-design of services and other processes, in influencing and shaping plans and actions’

Local and Regional Democracy

Over the past five years Sheffield has had eight elections, all opportunities for citizens to vote for their leaders and representatives. Without doubt the most significant opportunity to vote in recent times was the EU referendum in 2016.

Of the city's 570,000 people, around 450,000 are aged 18 or over, most of whom are eligible to vote in all elections, although EU citizens are not eligible to vote in general elections. Who are the people not registered to vote? Several things appear to be clear:

- People aged 18 to 25 are among the more likely to be unregistered, although this may be skewed by students, who can choose to register either at their home or university address
- People whose housing changes more frequently are less likely to be registered, and among these people will be some of our more vulnerable and disadvantaged citizens
- People with long-term health problems or long-term disabilities, including people with mental health problems or learning disabilities, are also less likely to be registered

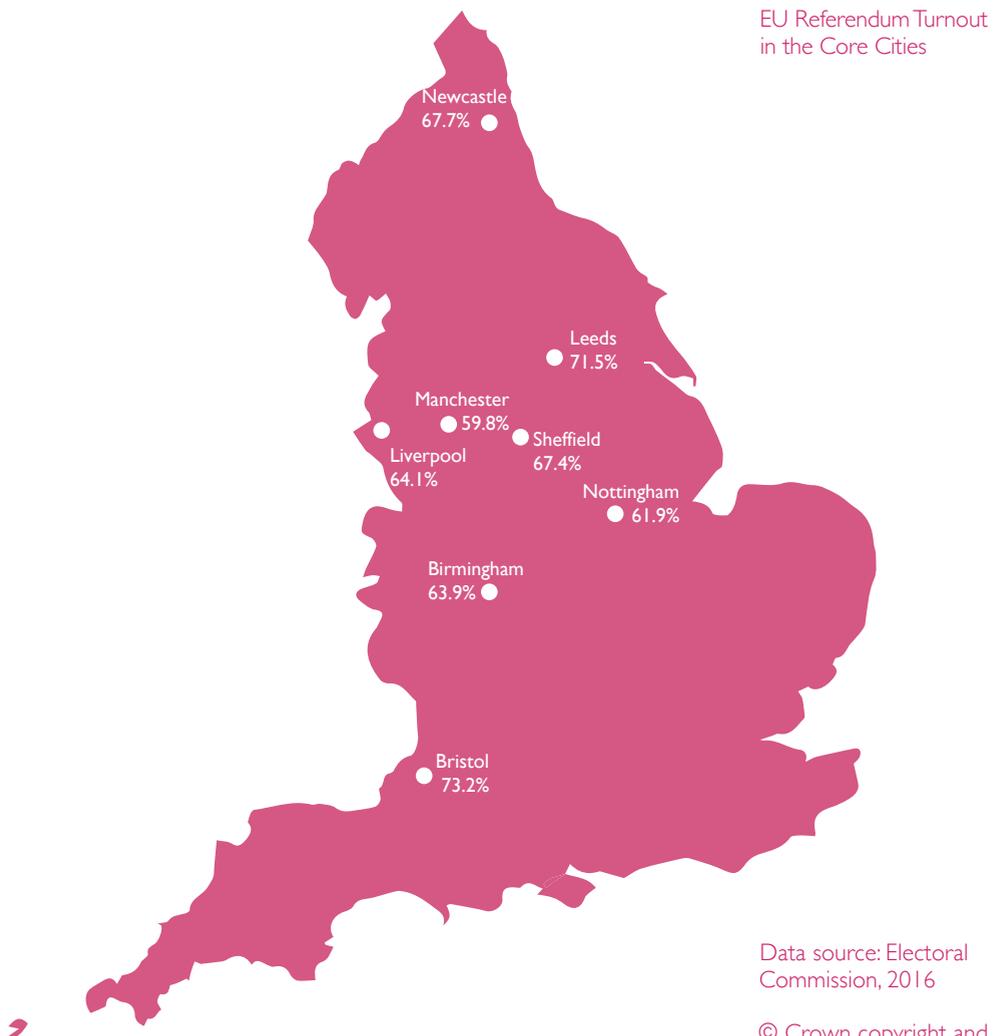
43. The December 2015 electoral registers in Great Britain, Electoral Commission, 2016

Nationally, analysis by the Electoral Commission⁴³ shows that the overall accuracy of the local government registers has increased, whilst their completeness has declined. Compared to household registration, under individual registration people are increasingly likely to register to vote in the run-up to an electoral event compared to other times. Registrations that took place in the build up to the May 2016 elections and the EU referendum shows that people find it quick and easy to register before a poll when they most need to be registered.

Some important steps have been taken to improve registration, particularly among students in the city. The University of Sheffield, to be followed by Sheffield Hallam University in the 2017/18 academic year, has integrated electoral registration into its online course registration module with the aim of boosting the number

of students registered. Other activities have included actively promoting the importance of electoral registration for other purposes: as a passport to obtaining a credit reference, and working with community organisations to understand better how to facilitate registration for different communities.

Returning to the EU referendum, in Sheffield the vote was split almost exactly three ways: 136,018 voted to



Data source: Electoral Commission, 2016

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leave, 130,735 voted to remain, and 129,471 did not vote. Turnout was significant, with over 67% of those registered participating in the referendum, suggesting people felt an increased level of engagement with the issue.

The turnout in Sheffield was just under 5% less than the national turnout of 72.2%. Compared to other Core Cities, Sheffield had the fourth highest turnout, with Bristol, Leeds and Newcastle having higher turnouts and only Bristol having a turnout that exceeded the national turnout.

Despite the good level of electoral registration in the city, electoral participation, measured as voter turnout, varies significantly between elections. There is clear evidence of this in all Core Cities and in the UK as a whole, with fluctuations attributable to many factors including specific issues of local significance, popular or unpopular candidates and, according to a Survation survey carried out in 2013⁴⁴, people not believing that their vote will make a difference.

44. Survation, *Apathy in the UK? A look at the attitudes of non-voters, 2013*

Election	Eligible to vote	Voted	Turnout %
EU referendum	396,422	266,951	67.34
South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner election 2012	1,000,015	145,294	
South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner election 2016	946,906	279,148	
General election 2015			
• Penistone and Stocksbridge	71,048	47,211	66.45
• Brightside and Hillsborough	73,090	41,457	56.72
• Central	77,014	47,248	61.35
• Hallam	73,658	56,606	76.85
• Heeley	69,265	43,014	62.10
• South East	70,422	42,549	60.42
Local election 2012	397,510	130,264	32.77
Local election 2014	399,277	143,021	35.82
Local election 2015	407,252	257,098	63.13
Local election 2016	388,850	134,503	34.59

Data source: Electoral Commission, Sheffield City Council

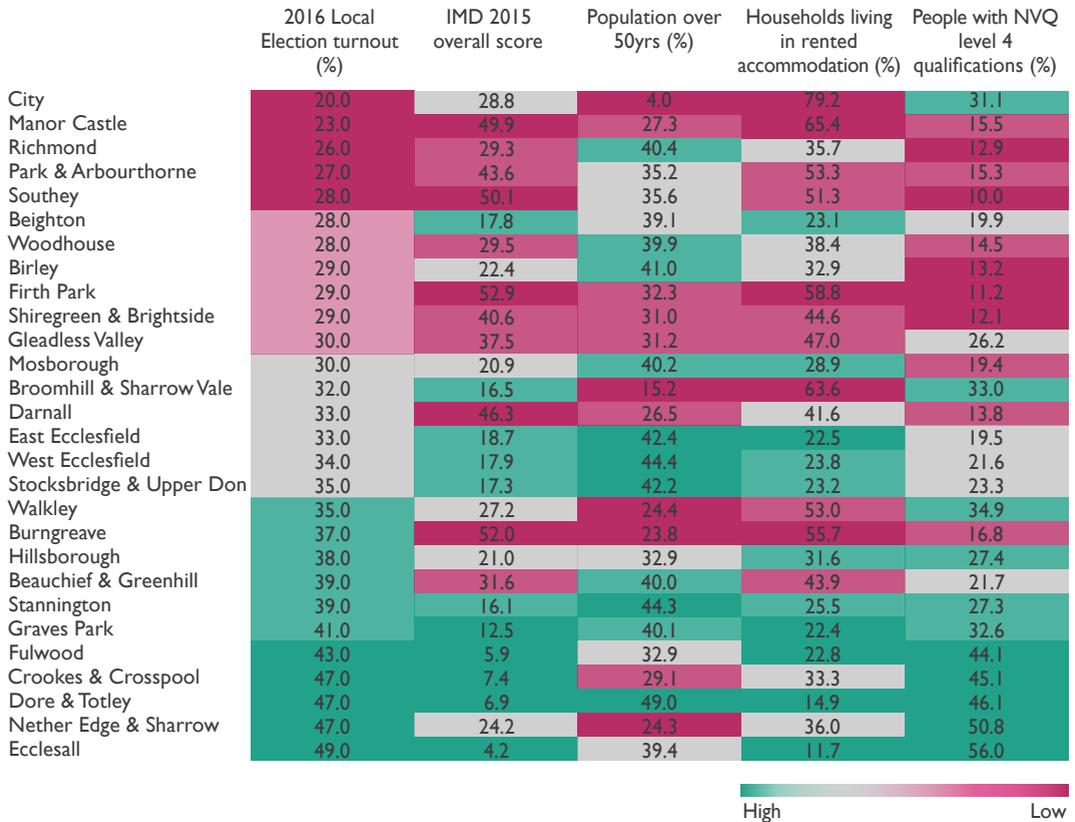
In elections held over the past five years, turnout has varied from under 15%, in the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner by-election in 2012, to nearly 77% in Sheffield Hallam constituency in the 2015 general election. Over 660,000 people in South Yorkshire did not vote for the Police and Crime Commissioner in 2016. In city council local elections, turnout was at its highest in 2015 at just over 63%, when the local and general elections were on the same day. In other years, turnout has been around 34%.

Almost two thirds of Sheffield citizens do not take part in choosing their local councillors (except when there is also a general election). This level of turnout is found in some other cities, for example, Leeds at 34% and Manchester at 31%. Within the Core Cities, only Birmingham and Nottingham had turnouts of over 50% in their most recent local elections.

In Sheffield, the overall picture masks some substantial differences. In the 2016 local elections, there was a significant variation in turnout across the city, from 20% in the City ward to 49% in Ecclesall.

This degree of difference has featured in every local election since 2012. Even in 2015, when the local and general elections were on the same day, turnout in Manor Castle was 48% and in Ecclesall was 81%. There appears to be a relationship between turnout and the make-up of a ward's population. The most striking relationship appears to be with the proportion of people with NVQ level 4 or higher qualifications. The five wards where between 44% and 56% of adults have these qualifications coincided with the highest turnout in the 2016 local election. Other features of the population may well impact on turnout, but there are also some significant variations from the overall picture. In Burngreave, for example, which is the city's second most deprived ward, there are relatively few older people and a high rate of rented housing, and yet here turnout was relatively good, at 37%.

However, democracy and engagement with both local and national politics is complex. There are many factors which affect voter turnout; people's sense of



Data sources: DCLG 2015, ONS Annual Population Survey 2016, Census 2011

empowerment, level of connection or dis-connection with democracy and government, and specific local issues. The reasons are different within different communities in Sheffield.

Engaged Citizens

Whilst elections are the bedrock of our democracy, they are far from the only way people engage with and seek to influence decision makers. Sheffield, like all major cities, has many important public, voluntary and private institutions that together form an organisational backdrop to life in the city Sheffield’s tradition of civic leadership stretches back for many decades, indeed well into the 1800s.

The city's leaders are remembered in the galleries of photographs of Lord Mayors past and present, the naming of parks, galleries, streets and hospital wards, and in the memory of the great industrial companies. The city's people have been engaged, through trade unions, tenants and residents associations, political parties, voluntary and community organisations, and churches and other faith organisations, in shaping and influencing the city's future.

Sheffield City Council, which can trace its history back to 1843, is, however, the only city institution that is directly democratically accountable to the city's people⁴⁵. The NHS, two universities, police and fire services, which are all very important to the city, are not directly accountable to local people. Nevertheless, all the city's public bodies are committed to seeking to engage people in planning and decision making, and use many different ways to do so. The need to strengthen this was among the recommendations of the Sheffield Fairness Commission, which called for citizens to be better informed and engaged with policy development and to have better opportunities to contribute to service delivery.

Sheffield City Council operates in the public domain, with Council meetings held in public, open meetings such as those concerning the budget, numerous local forums and petitions. Local councillors are an important conduit for the voice and concerns of citizens and communities. During the past year, the Council has run over 200 public consultations on issues ranging from carer respite services and local neighbourhood surveys (for example in Lower Manor) to views about library services. Participation rates in these consultations is strongly influenced by the specific issue, the level of communication and publicity, and the type of method used for each consultation, with citywide issues such as parks, libraries and waste management receiving higher response rates.

The NHS and other public bodies similarly seek to engage the public in planning and decision making. Indeed there is a plethora of opportunities to participate, but they are not always as easy to access and contribute to as might be desirable.

45. By contrast, the position of Police and Crime Commissioner is directly elected across South Yorkshire.

There is very clearly a public appetite to participate in consultation, be involved in the co-design of services and other processes, in influencing and shaping plans and actions. This said, it is recognised that there is also a sense of public cynicism about whether people are listened to and their views acted upon. Sheffield's Fairness Commission recommended that more should be done to inform people, engage them in developing policy and contribute to service provision.

Assembly North, led by the University of Sheffield's Crick Centre for Understanding Politics, in conjunction with the University of Southampton, saw a series of facilitated discussions take place among a small but representative group of people from South Yorkshire. The aim was to investigate how citizens can become more involved in the decision-making processes that impact their lives. It explored, in depth, the Sheffield City Region devolution deal. As well as making some recommendations, the Assembly showed that citizens from diverse walks of life can be engaged in complex policy and governance debates when given appropriate support and opportunity. It suggests that such processes can helpfully complement electoral democracy and formal public consultations, but also acknowledged the investment of expertise, time and funding that this requires.

After eight years of unprecedented austerity, our public bodies are having to make increasingly difficult choices and decisions, often about matters of great public interest.

In this context, a renewed Sheffield-wide commitment to openness and engagement, supported by a comprehensive and coordinated multi-agency engagement strategy and action plan, which embraces the opportunities presented by social media, might help achieve the participation and high-quality dialogue that so many public bodies, people and communities wish to see.

‘The city has at least 3,300 community and voluntary organisations. 90,000 people are active in these organisations’

Leadership, Representation and Membership

People’s view of national and local government and the extent to which their voices are heard is closely linked to their view of politicians and other leaders. As detailed earlier, the city’s population is changing, fast. The make-up of our City Council is keeping pace with these changes. The 84 elected councillors are drawn from a growing diversity of communities. The Council’s cabinet, which is made up of 10 councillors, has an equal gender balance, five women and five men. In 2014, the Council set up the Equality Hub Network as an opportunity for underrepresented communities to have their say on issues that affect them and influence the decisions made in the city.

The make-up of the leadership of the city’s other major institutions appears to be changing far more slowly, with very few people from black and ethnic minority groups and far from enough women in leadership roles. Nurturing future leaders, drawing from all the city’s communities, would surely contribute to creating a new sense of representation, empowerment and scope for engagement.

The organisations that working people in the city were traditionally members of, and which very often represented their interests, have also changed, almost beyond recognition. Sheffield's thriving trade unions have seen their membership greatly reduced. Many fewer people in employment are members of unions. Nationally, in 1995 almost one third of employees were in trade unions; by 2015, this had fallen to under a quarter, with membership in the Yorkshire and Humber region slightly higher at 27%. Those people who remain members of unions are most likely to be over 50 years old, in full-time employment and working in large public-sector organisations.

Community and Voluntary Organisations

And yet, despite these changes, tens of thousands of Sheffield citizens are active in their communities, faith organisations and workplaces. Voluntary Action Sheffield's 'State of the Sector' report illustrates this. The city has at least 3300 community and voluntary organisations. 90,000 people are active in these organisations. Most of these organisations are small, relatively informal and with few if any paid staff. They offer a range of opportunities and activities. Their combined turnover is over £370m, and it is estimated that they add over £800m of 'gross value added' to the city.

It is very often at a local level or about a specific issue that people are most engaged: it is at this level that people often feel most passionate and most able to make a difference. Throughout the city, every day, thousands of people are demonstrating an enduring engagement with the city - Sheffield's community libraries, for example, are now run by teams of volunteers drawn from the neighbourhoods they serve. Our network of eighteen foodbanks has sprung up almost exclusively through voluntary commitment and effort. Support for refugees arriving in the city very often comes from volunteer led groups. There are, of course, hundreds of other examples of voluntary and community action across the city.



Looking Forward

Laura White
(Sheffield City Partnership Board)

Looking Forward: Opportunities for Sheffield in 2017 and beyond

2016 was a year which brought great change and uncertainty for Sheffield, the UK and beyond. Many of the underlying trends and longer-term implications, related to events such as the UK's decision to leave the European Union, will take a number of years to emerge. However, the analysis in this report shows that Sheffield faces similar challenges to other UK cities and these will need to be addressed in order to maximise the city's potential for growth and prosperity, it is clear that Sheffield is a resilient city with significant assets, strengths and capabilities, which will remain vital into the future.

Sheffield values its openness and places fairness at its heart, and this report illustrates that many residents are facing very challenging times. Building a Sheffield which brings prosperity and opportunity for all is an ambition that unites residents and policy-makers across the city. In a city-driven global economy, there is significant momentum behind activity to maximise and enhance the assets which will drive Sheffield's economic prosperity over the coming decades. It is this focus on assets, such as our leading advanced manufacturing capabilities; our creativity and entrepreneurialism; our talented children and young people; and our unique access to dynamic city life, culture and opportunities alongside an outstanding National Park, which make Sheffield a critical part of the Northern economy, and have enabled the city to access new devolved powers over recent years. To capture this, work has been undertaken with partners across the SCR to develop a shared, collective 'vision' which sets out how the City Region can maximise its economic potential. This Vision Prospectus will now help to inform our approach to growing a prosperous and inclusive city⁴⁶.

The following sections provide an overview of the key opportunities for Sheffield to build on, as identified in the report's six chapters, and set out some recommendations for next steps for partners and stakeholders across the city.

46. The Sheffield City Region Vision Prospectus, is due to be launched in its final format shortly after the publication of this report.

Vibrant Economy

Despite the economic crash in 2008, Sheffield's economy has continued to recover and grow in recent years. Businesses in Sheffield have been resilient, and there is growth in the city's prime capability of advanced manufacturing, as well as strong growth in the emerging creative and digital industries, which have significant potential to deliver good jobs and continued growth. Salaries have also been rising, and investments in skills and improvements in education, show the potential for our economy to move in a positive direction. Sheffield is also embracing its 'unique selling points', for example as a 'city of makers', establishing the new Creative Guild for the city, and forging bilateral global links, such as the recent investment secured for the city from Chinese Sichuan Guodong Construction Group⁴⁷.

In a global economy where cities need to compete to attract businesses, jobs, investment and talented people; uniqueness counts. Cities increasingly need to think beyond traditional geographic and economic factors and look towards their more distinctive lifestyle assets – such as housing, leisure and culture – which act as magnets for prospective people and businesses whilst being celebrated assets to those currently in the city. For example, the Outdoor City Strategy starts to build upon the existing strengths in this area, to set Sheffield apart as the leading city for people seeking outdoor adventure combined with city culture⁴⁸.

Crucially, to help deliver its economic potential, the city must come together to develop a vision for sustainable and equitable growth, which can deliver greater prosperity to more of Sheffield's residents. In 2017, partners across the city will develop an inclusive growth strategy for Sheffield, following on from the RSA's Inclusive Growth Commission, in which Sheffield has played a leading role in contributing evidence and driving the agenda⁴⁹. This work in Sheffield will link to aspirations across the Sheffield City Region (SCR), and the SCR Vision Prospectus to unlock the 'economic and social potential' of the city region through an inclusive growth approach⁵⁰.

47. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-southyorkshire-36846472>

48. Sheffield City Council, Outdoor Economic Strategy, 2016

49. RSA, Inclusive Growth Commission – Emerging Findings, 2016

50. SCR Vision: Gearing up Together for a Better Future, A Prospectus for Sheffield City Region (Discussion Draft)

As evidenced throughout, ensuring that the city grows and prospers in a way which benefits and includes Sheffield people, and maximises the city's potential, will be a core concern for all. To help fulfil this ambition we will need to:

- Work together as a city in 2017 and beyond, to develop an inclusive growth approach which will build on the strengths and opportunities identified throughout.
- Work with partners across the city region to join-up Sheffield's vision for inclusive growth with the broader vision for developing a successful city region, including maximising the potential of the Devolution Agreement and the Sheffield City Region Mayor, when elected.

Youthful City

Sheffield has made good progress in recent years in education, skills, and opportunities for young people, with improvements in the performance of our schools and better educational outcomes and attainment for our children. In addition, more than 92% of Sheffield's 16 and 17 year olds are now engaged in full-time education, training, apprenticeships or another job with training, which is better than the national and Core City average. Sheffield also continues to attract large numbers of students who make a vital contribution to the current and future life of the city.

Most importantly, inequality in education, which is of utmost concern to us in building a fair city for the future, has narrowed. There have been significant improvements in attainment of young people eligible for free school meals, with the city closing the gap with the national average to just 1 percent by the age of 19, and a growing proportion of young people entitled to free school meals now progressing to higher education. In 2013-14, 21% of Sheffield pupils with a free school meal entitlement progressed to higher education. The gap between this group and others is narrowing, although it remains worse than the national average, demonstrating that there is still work to be done in this regard.

Maximising opportunities for all to ensure that everyone can benefit from the growing economy is essential to reduce inequalities and equip those who may otherwise be left behind, to participate fully in the city's success. The newly created Vulnerable Young People's Service further develops and extends work with young people who are not in employment, education or training (NEET), and other vulnerable young people. This work looks to support engagement and improve performance, helping young people to remain in education or employment whilst reducing the risk of engagement in harmful activities including anti-social behaviour, crime, drug abuse and gang membership.

Sheffield's education system is meeting the needs of its young people more successfully than it has done before. Improvements across all stages in education reflect improved outcomes in relation to national, Core Cities and statistical neighbour data. This improvement journey has been built on partnership working, especially in the school sectors, and this has now been formalised in the creation of Learn Sheffield -a partnership between Sheffield's schools and the City Council which is focused on driving school improvement⁵¹.

The scope and clarity of the Sheffield Priorities that Learn Sheffield have developed is underpinned by a belief that our education system must develop young people who achieve well and have a high degree of readiness, if they are to have the life chances they deserve.

Sheffield's aspiration and expectation must now be to match the performance of the highest performing areas of the country. In order to fulfil this ambition, partners in the city must:

- Continue to work together to support ongoing and sustainable school improvement across all school types.
- Work towards the development of a new Post-16 Strategy, to further continued educational improvement in the city, including sustaining the city's good performance with regard to apprenticeships, and strengths in the further and higher education sectors.

51. You can find out more about Learn Sheffield at www.learnsheffield.co.uk

Ageing-friendly City

People's experience of getting older in Sheffield is currently variable and we therefore have an important task to ensure that the city's fairness agenda extends to the experience of those in later life. It also demonstrates the new and emerging contributions which our older population is making to the life and economy of the city, as people are living longer, including working in formal employment for longer and contributing to the informal economy, for example in caring roles.

We must recognise this contribution and strive to be an ageing-friendly city overall, building on previous initiatives, such as the City for All Ages, to ensure that all of our residents have the opportunities for healthy and happy lives, and maximise their potential to contribute to building a positive future for the city.

To achieve the vision of making Sheffield a city for all ages, and take forward previous good work in the area, we will need to:

- Take an 'active ageing' approach to everything we do.
- Focus on adding life to years, now that years have been added to life.
- As part of our Public Health Strategy work together to renew and redevelop the City for All Ages framework and refresh our approach to healthy ageing.

Fair and Just City

The UK and Sheffield have been growing economically, but like millions of people across the country, the people of Sheffield have been living through challenging times and many are confronted with inequality and uncertainty on a daily basis. Too many children are still growing up in poverty in Sheffield and throughout the UK, although progress has been made here in closing the gap in terms of educational attainment, and improving outcomes and opportunities for those children, this issue is of grave concern to our city, with much more still to be done at a local and national level. In many ways however, the people of this city are already coming together to try to tackle this

collectively, as illustrated by the work of the Our Fair City campaign, and the strength of our voluntary and community sector, and this gives us a foundation to build upon as partners and policy-makers come together to pursue this vision for a fairer, more prosperous and inclusive Sheffield.

Sheffield will soon launch a refreshed Community Cohesion Framework which will support agencies and communities to pro-actively promote cohesion by identifying and implementing specific actions. The Framework will build on previous work, and link to the ongoing work being taken forward from the Fairness Commission, and is based on the premise that Sheffield's residents should all feel that they are a valued part of the life of this city regardless of how old they are, how long they have lived in the city, what they believe, or what their background⁵².

Sheffield has been bold in standing by the statement that it wants to be a Fair City, and it has made some steps towards that, but there are clearly still a number of areas to work on. To help fulfil the city's ongoing ambition to be fair and just into the future, we will need to:

- Continue to work towards implementing the recommendations set out by the Sheffield Fairness Commission and provided to Sheffield leaders, and ensuring that we are looking at policy and resource allocation through an inequality lens.
- Work together to nurture and support strong and resilient communities across the city.
- Champion the case for inclusive growth, as identified in the previous section, recognising that we need to grow and prosper together, in a way which benefits and includes all of our residents.

City Ecosystem

The people of Sheffield take great pride in our green city, and initiatives such as the Outdoor City are helping us to build upon and maximise this fantastic and unique asset. Whilst there are undoubtedly improvements to be made in how we harness our green credentials to improve the health

52. Sheffield First Partnership, A Cohesion Strategy for Sheffield, 2008

and well-being of residents, Sheffield is fortunate to have green assets that are unrivalled amongst major UK cities. Over 45% of people in Sheffield have access a small woodland site within 500m and over 90% have a larger site within 4km. There are also over 25 million visits each year to urban parks, woodlands and countryside. However, we would like to see more people regularly walking and cycling around the city to help us improve our local environment and wider health. In particular, we must turn our attention to improving air quality in Sheffield, which is a serious issue confronting cities across this country and beyond.

It is clear that the natural environment and the many benefits it brings to Sheffield are valued by many people within the city. To maximise this city's great potential in terms of its natural environment, and ensure that these benefits are felt by all, we will need to:

- Encourage larger proportions of the population to make use of the outdoor environment and the range of activities and facilities available across the city.
- Build on the positive trends seen in walking and learn from the experiences of other cities in terms of how to most effectively improve our cycling rates.
- Work together to address the long standing air quality challenges faced by the city, whilst acknowledging that this is a challenge for all cities.

Democracy and engagement

Sheffield has a proud and strong tradition of lively political engagement, and our residents are clearly active in their communities. In terms of electoral politics, the relatively high turnout at the EU referendum, demonstrates that residents here are still passionate about issues which matter to them. In this period of change for the city and country, as issues such as economic uncertainty and the precise details of the UK's exit from the EU unfold, there is still much to explore and understand in terms of what these issues are likely to be in 2017 and what the implications will be for the future trajectory of our city. What we do

know however, is that with the devolution agenda and the local moves towards public service reform, there will be potential for greater engagement and involvement of residents in shaping this future at a local level.

Re-invigorating democracy and engagement is possible and this will be fundamental to achieving the vision for creating a prosperous and inclusive Sheffield of the future, as discussed throughout, since the people of Sheffield are undoubtedly the city's greatest and most important asset. To achieve this vision we will need to:

- Ensure that our many institutions across the city are open, actively involving and listening to people
- Nurture new generations of leaders drawn from all our diverse communities, to pursue new opportunities to engage and contribute, and help shape the city's future.

About Sheffield City Partnership Board

The City Partnership is committed to effective collaboration, aiming to ensure that the key organisations and leaders in Sheffield are working together to build effective and inclusive solutions to the challenges facing the city, sharing responsibility, and ensuring that Sheffield is fully grasping all opportunities. The City Partnership aims to foster a culture of optimism and trust, building on what is already happening and achievements within Sheffield and the talent of local people and organisations.

Membership of the Sheffield City Partnership Board:

- The Rt Hon. the Lord Blunkett, Chair of Sheffield City Partnership Board
- Neill Birchenall, Vice Chair of the Sheffield City Partnership Board and Managing Director of Birchenall Howden
- The Very Reverend Peter Bradley, Dean of Sheffield
- Karen Bryan, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Regional Engagement, Sheffield Hallam University
- Andy Buck, Chief Executive, Sheffield Citizens Advice
- Michelle Buttery, Chief Executive & Solicitor to the PCC, Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner
- Heather Campbell, Professor of Town and Regional Planning, The University of Sheffield
- Sandi Carman, Assistant Chief Executive, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- Paul Corcoran, Principal & Chief Executive, The Sheffield College
- James Courtney, Chief Fire Officer, South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue
- Cllr Julie Dore, Leader of the Council, Sheffield City Council
- David Hartley, District Commander Sheffield, South Yorkshire Police
- James Henderson, Director of Policy, Performance & Communications, Sheffield City Council
- Paul Houghton, Partner, Grant Thornton
- Debbie Matthews, Chief Executive, Manor & Castle Development Trust

- Tim Moorhead, Chair of Sheffield NHS CCG, Clinical Commissioning Group Committee
- John Mothersole, Chief Executive, Sheffield City Council
- Maddy Ruff, Accountable Officer, NHS Sheffield CCG
- Richard Wright, Executive Director, Sheffield Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Deputies:

- Martin Blunden, Temporary Deputy Chief Fire Officer, South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue
- Maddy Desforges, Chief Executive, Voluntary Action Sheffield
- Lynda Hinxman, Assistant Dean, Sheffield Business School, Sheffield Hallam University
- Cllr Mazher Iqbal, Labour Councillor and Cabinet Member, Sheffield City Council
- Tim Watkinson, Director of Communications, Sheffield Hallam University

