

NEW EMPLOYMENT DATA FOR THE DURHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA (NPA)

With comparison with Durham City as a whole
(that is, the City of Durham Constituency/former District Council area)

INTRODUCTION (see last paragraph for technical notes)

While employment itself is one of the main aspects of the Neighbourhood Plan, data mainly of the Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) for September, 2016, also provide a surrogate for other measures of activity; for example, on the question of whether the NPA area has been allowed too many restaurants and cafes.

- There has been a *hollowing out* of activity from the NPA area, which no longer has half the jobs of the former City area, as in 2007 or 2011.
- This was due to the loss of specialist shops and their replacement by larger supermarkets in the rest of the former City area, together with losses from wider accommodation and food services, and from the County Council site.
- Two-thirds of NPA jobs remain in public services; including University, Hospital and County work.
- More than two-fifths of employees work part-time (less than 30 hours per week), substantially above the GB level
- It was found that *this area* has nearly three times the average national share of licensed restaurants, but only the average of unlicensed restaurants and cafes.
- (From the 2011 Census) NPA *resident* people in work make up only a tenth of the daytime workforce, among whom nearly two-thirds travelled in by car.
- The Constituency/former City as a whole is a natural “growth point” of the County relative to the surrounding areas as a whole, but this description does not apply to the NPA area, at least pending the completion of a large amount of building work.

RELATIONSHIP TO RESIDENTS

The interests of residents and business are very different. It is important to note that the NPA area has very different day-time and night-time, term-time and vacation populations. The 2011 Census at least distinguishes these. Just 2,300 people both lived and worked in the area in 2011, compared with a total of 23,000 workplace jobs and a total “out-of-term-time” population of 16 to 74 of 9,500. However, the latter total still includes “2,900 students” as well as 1,200 retired, 200 unemployed and 900 others, leaving 4,800 economically active in work – a relatively low activity rate – including 520 self-employed residents.

A considerable proportion of those 2,500 people commuting out of the NPA travelled to adjoining and surrounding wards of the former City and vice versa. However, taking necessarily a slightly wider statistical area including the Durham industrial estate at Meadowfield, we know that in 2011, while 13% of the NPA workforce travelled in less than 2 km., and 18% between 2 and 5 km., no less than 22% had a journey of 5-10km. and 31%

10-20 km. Unsurprisingly, no less than 63.9% of the NPA workforce travelled to work by car or van, with only 11.8% by public transport and 11.4% on foot.

The jobs of the area were more “white collar” than in England and Wales as a whole: the median job of the area is of the “supervisory, clerical and junior management” kind, with 37.5 of the total, and 28.2% were in management and administrative jobs.

COMPARISON WITH DURHAM CITY CONSTITUENCY/FORMER DISTRICT AREA

- All data from here are to 2016, and exclude the self-employed, a major sector of recent employment growth. as in most places.
- The NPA area contains about 21,000 employee jobs, of which at least 8,000 are held by part-time staff working less than 30 hours per week. This proportion of 41.0% is greater than the national GB average of 32.2%.
- The overall number has definitely fallen over the last nine years, showing a marked tendency to decline since 2011, when it stood at 23,000.
- Whereas in 2007, the NPA area held half the employee jobs of the former City, 24,000 out of 48,000, the NPA’s share has decreased to 46.2%.
- The “Outer City” – the former City less the NPA area – has better recovered employment levels since the recession of 2008, increasing from 23,000 in 2011 to 25,000 jobs in 2016.
- We know from the LFS/APS, including self-employed, that total workplace jobs in the former City as a whole increased from about 56,000 in 2007 to about 59,000 in 2016 (using 3-year moving means to offset sample error), or from 29% to 31% of the County’s jobs, when resident population aged 16-64 remained at about 20% of the County total.
- Thus the Constituency/former City as a whole is a natural “growth point” of the County relative to the surrounding areas a whole, but this description does not apply to the NPA area.

[attached files 2 CITIES TOTALS + PART-TIME; DURHAM LFS BY WORKPLACE; DURHAM LFS BY RESIDENTS]

COMPOSITION OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN THE NPA AREA

- Given the presence of the University, the University Hospital, the historic Prison and the County Council headquarters, it is not surprising that public services together employ 14,000 staff of the 21,000 in the area, or two-thirds of the total.
- This is a reduction from the total of 16,000 in 2007 and 2011, due to the loss of administrative work, principally in the County Council. In both 2011 and 2016 the University exceeded Hospital work in size with 4,000 employee jobs compared with 3,000 in the Hospital.
- A separate calculation from the same source shows that the “public sector” is now credited with 18% of jobs in GB, having declined, in the era of public spending cuts since the recession.

- The next most important sector of the NPA area involves hotels, food and drink, together employing 1,750 people (8.3%), including the majority of City jobs in licensed restaurants, public houses and bars – though not a majority, in these 2016 data, - in hotels or other food provision.
- By contrast the NPA area employs very small numbers (much less than the “Outer City”) in activities requiring physical access; manufacturing, transport, wholesaling and storage, motor trades and builders’ depots.
- It will require reflection that retail sector jobs in the NPA area stand at only 1,000 (4.8%), having declined from 1,750 in 2007 to 1,250 in 2011 – within the constant total of 4,000 for the City as a whole. There is a closer analysis of sub-sectors below.
- It is perhaps disappointing that the whole of the nationally buoyant group of financial and business services is poorly represented in the NPA area, with only 1,800 jobs together (in industries 10-14 inclusive) , compared with 3,500 in the “Outer City” and 3,100 in 2007.

[attached file 2 CITIES SECTORS]

COMPARING ELEMENTS OF CHANGE, 2007-2011 and 2011-2016

- Remarkably, there are very few sectors of expanding employee jobs in the NPA area. In the attached Table, where the data are divided into two time periods and 18 sectors; there are apparent increases to be found in Education and Health (apart from a temporary increase in finance, professional, scientific and technical sectors), but in effect they simply changed places, with the Hospital the leading sector with 4,000 jobs in 2007, the University with 3,000, a position reversed from 2001.
- Retailing declines by 750 jobs, principally in non-specialised sectors, and accommodation and food services by 500, 2007-16 (but see below).
- Looking at more detailed headings, restaurants did increase, by 400 jobs, between 2007 and 2011. Remarkably the information and communication sector was affected by a reported reduction of 575 employee jobs in programming and consultancy, and there are other apparent losses in activities such as management consultancy.

[attached 2 CITIES SECTORS]

CITY CENTRE ACTIVITIES

- More detailed analysis shows a shift away from the City centre (NPA) within the stable totals – in both 2007 and 2016 for the City as a whole - of 4,000 in retailing and 4,500 in accommodation and food services.
- In retailing the reduction from 1,750 to 1,000 NPA employee jobs results from a trend away from specialist shops in both parts of the City, and a drop in supermarket (“non-specialist retailing”) jobs; in 2007 the centre held 600 out of the total of 1,750 jobs of this type compared with 350 out of 2,000 in 2016.
- In accommodation and food services the reduction from 2,250 in 2007 to 1,750 in 2016 occurred despite an apparent increase in the main activities, from 500 to 700 in restaurants and 450 to 530 in pubs, bars and clubs.

- This includes an 88% "excess compared with GB data" of employee jobs in licensed restaurants and cafes, but none for unlicensed. Further data shows that there's no excess for the wider industry (hotels, pubs and sale of drink and prepared food together) over the wider area (the Travel-to-Work area which now includes Bishop Auckland).

SOURCE NOTES

All data are obtained via Durham University's "Nomis" system, which received the annual GB-wide update to data for employment by workplace on October 2. This provides detailed reporting for employees at work by local areas to September, 2016 and is compared back here and in attachments to 2007, including the period 2009-2012 previously reported in 2014 to the Neighbourhood Development Forum.

The main analysis covers workplaces in the Neighbourhood Plan Area (NPA), by summing figures for "Medium" and "Lower Super Output" (statistical) Areas, which align precisely with data previously extracted under the title of the "Neighbourhood Development Forum", which combined 3 former City Wards. This area is too small to carry statistically significant results in the Labour Force Survey or Annual Population Surveys (LFS/APS), used by the Neighbourhood Plan for activity rate analysis, because they are sampled surveys (although they alone, unlike BRES, include the self-employed).

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