



20 YEARS

Serving Tyne & Wear

Tyne & Wear Research and Information (TWRI) celebrates 20 years.

When Tyne & Wear County Council was abolished in March 1986, TWRI was established to support the 5 Tyne & Wear district councils through the assembly and analysis of statistical information.

With a highly dynamic and evolving work programme, TWRI has consistently provided a much valued and efficient service, producing regular analysis reports covering economic, census and demographic, land, property and business information, crime & disorder, regional work and urban capacity study work.

Liaising with national bodies and central government departments, TWRI also supports the emergency services.

Regional Spatial Strategy

TWRI provided substantial support to the Tyne & Wear Local Authorities at the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) Examination in Public (EiP). The EiP was held from March 7th to April 7th at the Swallow Hotel, Gateshead. It was chaired by an independent panel.

The RSS, prepared by the NE Assembly, is a statutory document which sets out the long-term physical development of the region in spatial terms. In particular, it sets limits to the amount of additional housing to be "allocated" (then built) from 2004 to 2021 both at regional and Tyne & Wear level.

TWRI was heavily involved in the RSS process, providing statistical, analytical and administrative support for the Tyne & Wear Local Authorities. TWRI submitted about twenty documents of supporting evidence at the start of the EiP. It also drafted some of the formal statements. TWRI staff attended the Inquiry on

most days, sometimes as Advisor to the TW Spokesperson.

Household Projections issued by ODPM during the Inquiry (on March 14th) show faster household growth than previously expected. For the period 2003-26, they show growth of 123,000 households in the NE. [This 11% growth rate is under half the England average of 23%.]

Household Projections for sub-regions, issued on April 5th by ODPM, show growth in Tyne & Wear of 51,000 (also 11%) or 2,200 annually.

2003-based Household Projections to 2026

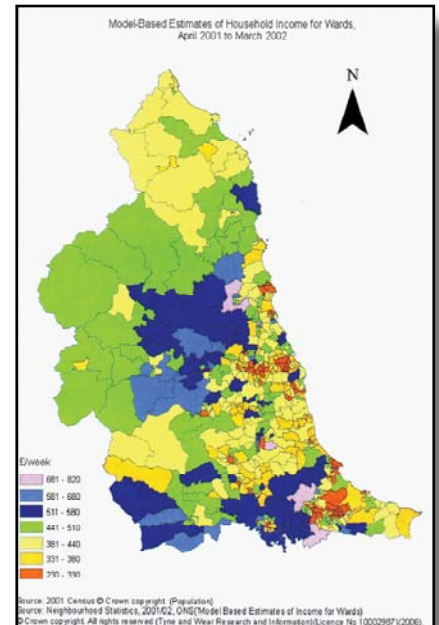
	2003	2006	2011	2016	2021	2026	Change 2003-2026	%
England	20,904,000	21,485,000	22,566,000	23,705,000	24,781,000	25,713,000	4,809,000	23.0
North East	1,088,000	1,105,000	1,136,000	1,168,000	1,194,000	1,211,000	123,000	11.3
Tyne & Wear	471,000	478,000	491,000	504,000	515,000	522,000	51,000	10.8
Gateshead	85,000	86,000	87,000	89,000	91,000	92,000	7,000	8.2
Newcastle	115,000	115,000	117,000	120,000	122,000	123,000	8,000	7.0
North Tyneside	85,000	88,000	92,000	96,000	100,000	103,000	18,000	21.2
South Tyneside	67,000	67,000	68,000	69,000	70,000	70,000	3,000	4.5
Sunderland	119,000	122,000	126,000	130,000	133,000	135,000	16,000	13.4

Source: Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM)

The Panel is due to write up its report by autumn and make its recommendations to the Secretary of State.

Assisted Areas

TWRI Supports the Assisted Areas Review.



TWRI has produced a special new set of maps to show ten potentially relevant socio-economic indicators at ward-level across the whole of the NE. The DTI has been holding a review of the Assisted Areas, and the maps have helped to inform the submissions from Tyne & Wear. DTI grants under the SFI (Selective Finance for Industry) scheme to firms in Tyne & Wear are currently worth about £10-20m pa. A new draft map is due to be produced by DTI in summer 2006.

Three likely indicators are employment

continued over ...

Population Projections

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) will begin a 7 week consultation on the migration assumptions in the 2004-based Sub-National Population Projections. The deadline for comments is July 13th. Local Authorities should expect to receive

a consultation pack in May. The final Sub-National Population Projections will be published in Autumn 2006.



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Assisted Areas continued

rate, VAT-registered businesses and some measure of skills (probably using qualifications).

One new map shows employment rates

by ward (from Census 2001).

A particularly interesting new map shows household income (from ONS' modelled estimates); this clearly shows the higher incomes in the Tyne & Wear City Region in Northumberland, to the west and NW of the conurbation.

One other map shows the ratio of VAT registered firms to residents. It shows the large concentration in Newcastle city centre and the low ratios across much of Tyne & Wear and eastern parts of Co. Durham.

Area Profiler/Instant Atlas

TWRI held a workshop for users of the Area Profiler in January 2006. This was well received and well attended.

Users proposed new functionality and datasets and TWRI are currently assessing the costs. Quarterly Crime counts for April to December 2005 have been loaded and similarly for Anti Social Behaviour Incidents. Index of Deprivation figures have also been added.

The ability to output data from Area Profiler into Instant Atlas is in progress. A new version of Instant Atlas has been received with improved publishing capabilities. It is anticipated this will be loaded on to the TWRI website over the next few months.

TWRI have been asked to assess the feasibility of utilising an enhanced Area Profiler and data warehouse to aid monitoring of performance targets. This follows recommendations of a



consultant report commissioned by the Safer Sunderland Partnership.

House Prices up 6.4%

In the year to the fourth quarter of 2006, house prices in Tyne & Wear were 6.4% higher than a year earlier, at £134,280, according to Land Registry data. This is nearly two percentage points faster than in England & Wales, up 4.6%. One reason for the slightly faster rise was very probably the doubling of the Stamp Duty threshold to £120,000 in spring 2005. This will have affected a far higher proportion of sales than nationally. Above this level, Stamp Duty is levied at 1%.

In the year to the fourth quarter, the fastest house price rises were for terraced houses; up 7.6% in England & Wales and up 9.0% in Tyne & Wear. Average house prices were closest to the £120,000 Stamp Duty threshold for this house type.

Average overall house prices are affected by the mix of house types. House price data are available for the four broad house types. In the year to the fourth quarter the rise in TW average house prices was slightly depressed (by nearly 1 percentage point) by a 6% fall in the volume of sales of detached houses.

The volume of house sales was up by 4% in Tyne & Wear but up 11% nationally.

About 1-in-10 sales are of new build dwellings.

Previous TWRI reports on house prices have recorded the rough doubling of house prices from 1999 to 2004. These reports are on the TWRI website.

Crime and Disorder

TWRI are currently involved in a Gateshead Justice Reinvestment project with the International Centre for Prison Studies. Decisions about criminal justice expenditure are taken at the national level and local authorities have no control over the spending of criminal justice budgets. This project will examine the practicality of other models of funding and will assess the effectiveness of more locally determined decision-making to address what are fundamentally local concerns.

Newcastle Alcohol Profile

TWRI have been commissioned to undertake a Newcastle Alcohol Profile project with Northumbria Police Newcastle Area Command and Safe Newcastle. The introduction of new alcohol licensing legislation requires specific objectives to be addressed when licensing authorities carry out their duties. This project will collect and analyse alcohol related data to help meet these objectives.

CAD for GIS

A presentation of AutoDesk Map 3D by a company called MicroCAD will be held on 12th June 2006 at Newcastle Civic Centre. Representatives of the Regional GIS Working Group have been invited to attend. Topics will include Data Access, Performance, File Formats, Return on Investment and discussions on which organisations are 'Future Ready'.

Reports

Weekly News

Keep up to date with a weekly summary of economic and other stories which affect Tyne & Wear.

Monthly Unemployment Report

From February 2006 (January data) the new format 'Unemployment in Tyne & Wear' report has been published. It includes:

- Seasonally adjusted claimant count figures
- Unadjusted claimant count figures
- Benefit claimants
- ILO unemployment
- Claimant count statistics for current (2004) wards

Businesses Registered for VAT 2004

TWRI published an analysis of business registrations, deregistrations and stocks, comparing Tyne & Wear Districts with the North East and UK.

All TWRI reports are downloadable free from www.tyne-wear-research.gov.uk