

Calderdale Inclusive Economic Recovery Board COVID-19 Impact Assessment February 2022 Update



COVID-19 Impact Assessment

February 2022

- This Calderdale COVID-19 Impact assessment contains a wide ranging dataset, agreed by the Inclusive Economic Recovery Board. Unless stated otherwise, all data is specific to Calderdale and is up to date as of mid January 2022.
- The Impact Assessment will continue to change as we find out more about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The combination of various data sources and contextual information will, over time, produce a full insight into the issues and opportunities Calderdale can seize to build back fairer. We will provide exception reporting at future meetings where there are significant changes.
- Calderdale Inclusive Economic Recovery Board set out a clear intention to have a focus on economic recovery, but also to consider the wider impacts of the pandemic on Calderdale and its communities. The impact assessment begins with an overview of COVID-19 infections and related mortality (page 5), with the rest of the document aligned with our key priorities:
 - Reducing Inequalities and the causes of deprivation (Slides 6-15)
 - Developing Sustainable towns (Slides 16-24)
 - Take action on the climate emergency (Slides 25-26)
- We will use this alongside other insights and intelligence from front-line services, local people and communities. This will ensure the voice and experience of our diverse communities brings insight to the data and frontline knowledge, providing a holistic oversight of the impact of COVID-19 locally.
- The assessment will also help us to identify the impact of the pandemic on the Council's longer-term priorities of reducing inequality, building stronger towns and combating climate change, and how it might affect the wider partnership activity necessary to achieve Vision 2024.
 - The Calderdale Inclusive Economic Recovery Board has reviewed the Calderdale Covid Impact Assessment at key points and has used this to inform our partnership recovery planning.
 - The COVID-19 Impact assessment was formally included as part of the published Inclusive Economic Recovery Plan.

Covid 19 across Calderdale

- The 7 day COVID-19 infection rate exceeded 2,200 per 100,000 in early 2022, by far the highest infection rate of the pandemic. Hospitalisations locally are close to those in the peak of the second wave.
- The Omicron variant has significantly increased COVID-19 infections in local care homes, similar to levels seen in the second wave. Deaths increased during Autumn 2021, the impact of Omicron is not yet clear.

Reduce Inequalities and the causes of deprivation

- The pandemic will impact on levels of physical activity and obesity locally, with people from BAME communities and those with disabilities, or long term health problems, most affected.
- The pandemic is impacting on mental health locally. We have seen an increase in requests for mental health assessments, as well as increased urgent crisis referrals.
- Increased demand for free school meals and food banks highlights the impact of the pandemic on poverty.
- Repossessions have increased since the eviction ban was lifted, but remain below pre pandemic levels. The number of households in temporary accommodation continues to increase.
- The long term impacts on educational and employment outcomes for children and young people are unclear. However, it is likely those from disadvantaged backgrounds will be most affected.
- The childcare sector has experienced significant financial losses, alongside reduced parental demand. Each lockdown has compounded concerns about financial sustainability.
- Hate crimes increased by 35% in 2021, compared to 2020. After falling 2020, overall crime levels in 2021 were broadly similar to 2019. Domestic abuse referrals are increasing.
- We saw an incredible response from communities volunteering and the VCS sector during lockdowns. However, more generally, the sector resilience and funding has been negatively impacted by lockdown.

Developing Sustainable Towns

- Unemployment benefit claimants are decreasing, after rising significantly during the first phase of the pandemic. Young people remain disproportionately affected, with 8.2% of 18 to 24 year olds claiming unemployment benefits locally in November 2021.
- Universal Credit claimant numbers increased by 61% in Calderdale between March 2020 and October 2021. Women not in employment are now the largest group amongst Universal Credit claimants.
- Apprenticeship starts are decreasing, particular for advanced apprenticeships. By age group, the under 19s have seen the largest reduction in apprenticeship start.
- 60% of local businesses responding to the 2021 Leeds City Region Business Survey reported decreased turnover in 2020, with 72% reporting their business had been negatively impacted by the pandemic.
- Property sales increased rapidly after the first lockdown, peaking in early 2021. Sales have since decreased significantly.
- Footfall recovered significantly in late 2021, almost returning to pre pandemic levels.
- Although business start-ups grew in 2020, the overall number of active enterprises declined.

Taking action on the Climate Emergency

- The first lockdown led to a reduction in traffic, with a corresponding fall in NO² emissions and road traffic accidents. Traffic has since returned to previous levels, and national data suggests dramatic reductions in the use of public transport.
- The volume of recycling increased significantly during the first lockdown. However, levels of fly tipping also increased, with further increases in 2021.
- The shift to home working resulted in a 16% reduction overall in CO² emissions through council property energy usage. Home energy bills are estimated to have risen nationally by £32 a month on average.
- Cycling increased during the first lockdown in 2020, but has since returned to pre pandemic levels.

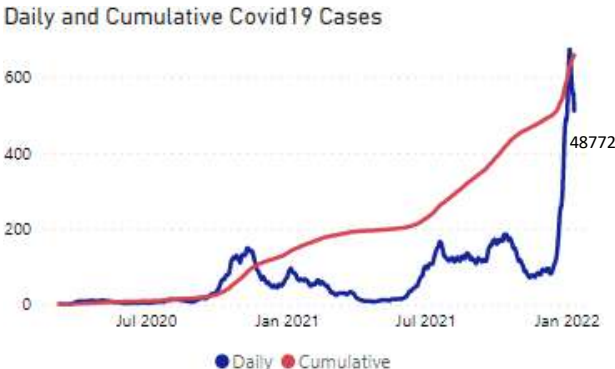
Covid 19 across Calderdale

Summary

To date, testing data gives a total of 48,772 Covid-19 infections in Calderdale, although the true figure will be higher. Of those, 430 Covid-19 related deaths have been confirmed. Hospitals and care homes were the most common locations of deaths.

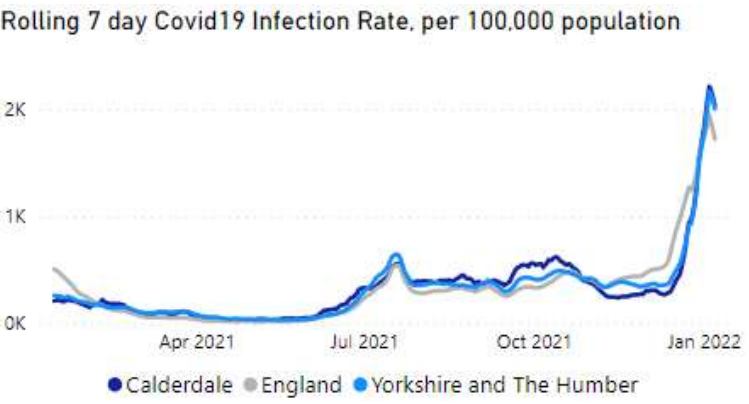
Infection rates locally were above national and regional averages last Autumn. Local and regional rates were slower to increase during the Omicron wave, with the largest increase coming in early January.

Current estimates suggest around 4,600 people in Calderdale have Long Covid.



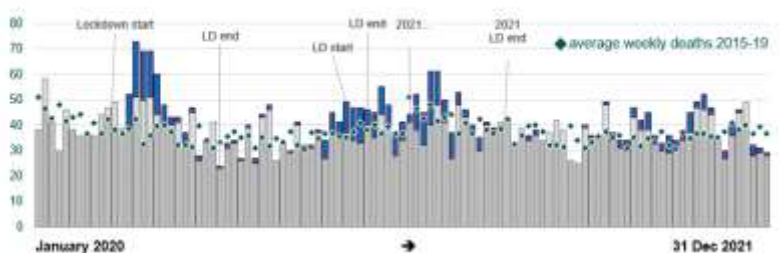
This chart shows the trends for positive infections in Calderdale. This highlights the substantial increase in infections in early 2022, arising from the Omicron variant. [Follow link for further detail.](#)

The chart below shows the rolling 7 day infection rate since January 2021 for Calderdale, Yorkshire & Humber and England. This highlights higher rates locally during the Autumn, and the slower growth of the Omicron variant locally and regionally.



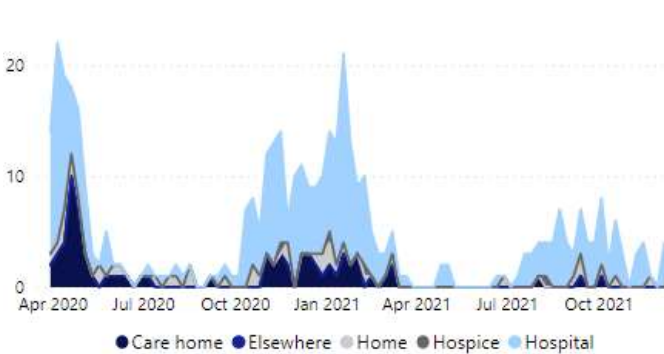
Using national prevalence data, there are estimated to be around 4,600 people in Calderdale currently with long Covid, of whom 20% (950) have significant activity limitation. Long Covid is when a person experiences signs and symptoms of covid for four or more weeks.

All deaths in 2020 and 2021 by week, with proportion where COVID-19 is mentioned



The Office for National Statistics publish weekly mortality statistics, highlighting the impact of Covid-19. The chart above shows Covid-19 related deaths (in blue) rose sharply in Spring 2020, in Autumn 2020 / early 2021, then again during Autumn 2021 (albeit to a lesser extent). Overall, there have been 396 excess deaths in Calderdale during the pandemic.

Covid Place of Death



ONS mortality data includes a breakdown by place of death. Deaths in hospital are the largest group, with those in care homes the next largest. Since the introduction of Covid vaccines, deaths in care homes have reduced significantly. By the end of 2021, 430 people in Calderdale had Covid19 recorded as their cause of death.

Reduce Inequalities and the causes of deprivation: Key Impacts on health and social care

Summary

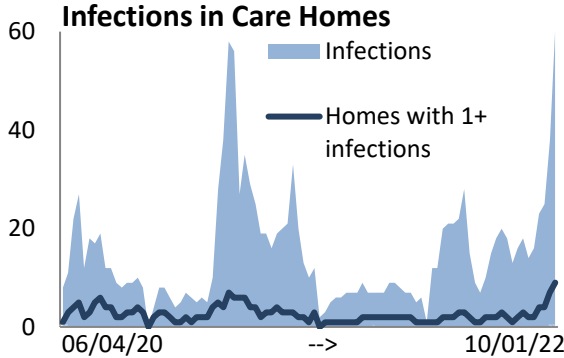
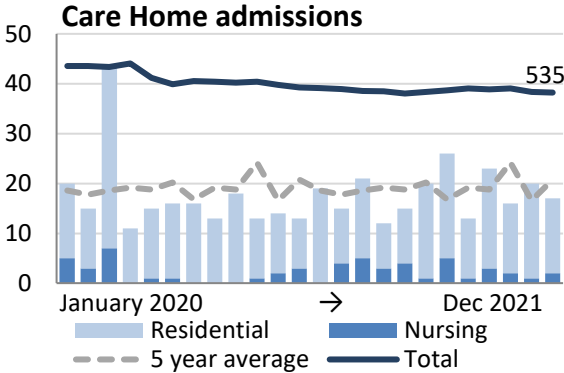
At the start of the pandemic, hospitals increased bed capacity through discharges into care homes.

Locally, this led to a significant increase in care home admissions. Subsequently, infections in care homes increased throughout April 2020, before falling over the summer.

There was a sharp rise in infections in care homes during the second wave in Autumn 2020, with a similar increase currently, arising from the Omicron variant.

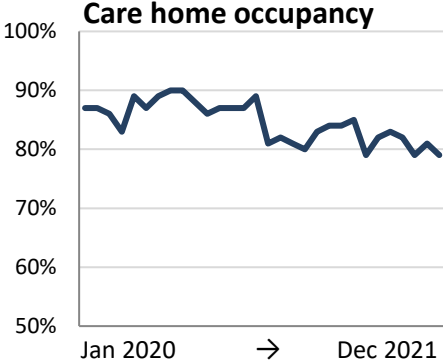
The overall care home population has fallen, as a result of increased mortality, as well as fewer permanent admissions into care.

Continued reduced occupancy of care homes will impact on financial sustainability.



Following local and national efforts to increase capacity in hospitals through discharges into care homes in early 2020, Covid-19 infections began to increase, leading to increased mortality. Infections in care homes have closely mirrored the overall trend for Calderdale, with lower levels over the summer, and higher levels in the Autumn / Winter. The chart above shows the impact of the Omicron wave, starting in December 2021. Currently, 9 homes have more than one resident with Covid-19, the highest figure reported so far.

As a result of the pandemic, there was a reduction in the number of people being permanently admitted into care homes. Admissions have increased in the last 12 months, but care home occupancy continues to decline, falling to around 81% by December 2021. If occupancy does not increase, the long term sustainability of care home providers will be threatened.



[Please note, data on infections in care homes and care provider occupancy can be subject to some delays in reporting and may not reflect the final position.]

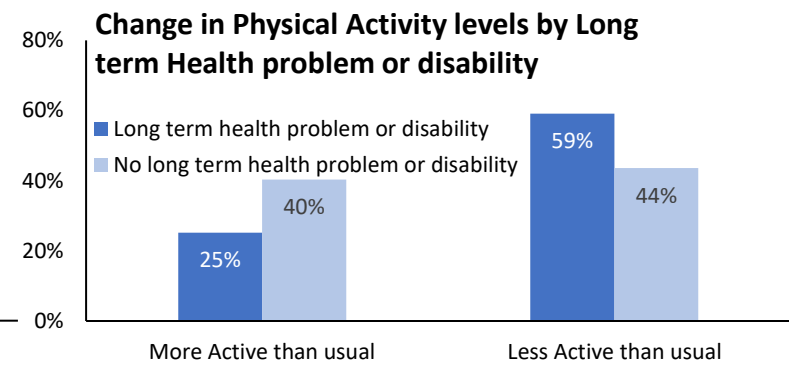
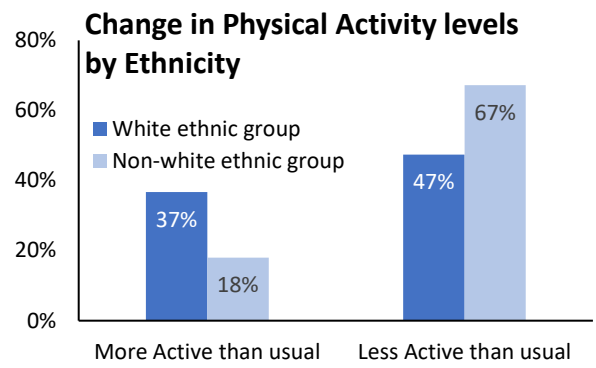
Reduce Inequalities and the causes of deprivation: Physical activity

Summary
 Prior to the pandemic, levels of physical activity in Calderdale were high.

Data collected early in the pandemic, both locally and nationally, suggested a split in the population, with a third of people being more active, but nearly half (49%) less active.

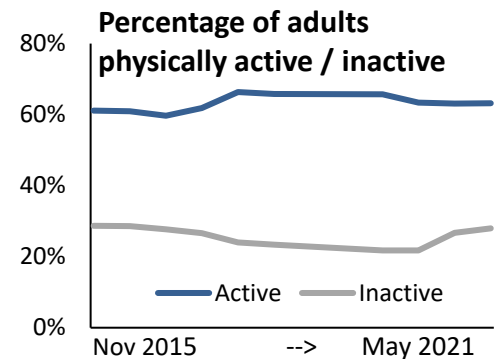
Local data suggests those already least likely to be active are disproportionately affected, including BAME people and those with long term health problems or disabilities.

Sport England estimated that 44% of children nationally were doing no activity or less than half an hour nationally during the first lockdown.



The pandemic will impact on levels of physical activity and obesity locally. A survey undertaken locally, during the first lockdown, suggested a massive disruption in adult physical activity behaviour. If sustained, this could lead to greater inequalities, with the largest reductions in activity levels seen amongst the BAME population and those with a long term health problem or disability. Sport England data showed a decrease in physical activity levels locally in 2020, with a corresponding increase in inactivity.

Sport England data on children’s activity levels, relating to the first lockdown, suggested that pre-pandemic around two thirds were doing the recommended 60 minutes a day. Since the pandemic, it’s thought 44% of all children nationally are either doing no activity, or less than half an hour each day.



Reduce Inequalities and the causes of deprivation: Excess weight

Summary

Levels of excess weight in children rose significantly across England and the region in 2020/21. It is fair to assume that this rise also took place in Calderdale.

National data for 2020/21 shows that prevalence of obesity differs with gender, ethnicity and deprivation.

Excess weight amongst adults is above the national average.

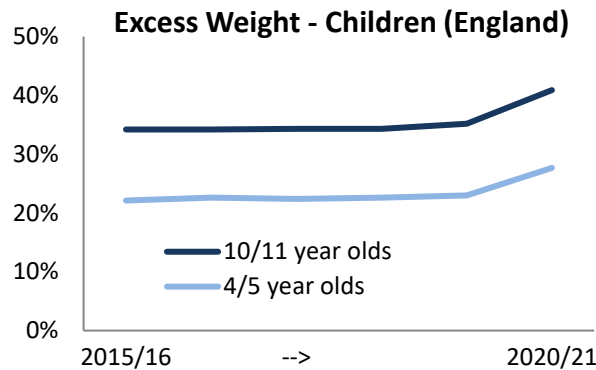
Statistics from the National Child Measurement Programme showed the prevalence of excess weight amongst Calderdale children (at 4/5 and 10/11 years old) to be broadly in line with national average in 2019/20.

While local authority level data was not published for [2020/21](#), regional and national data shows a noticeable increase in excess weight among children.

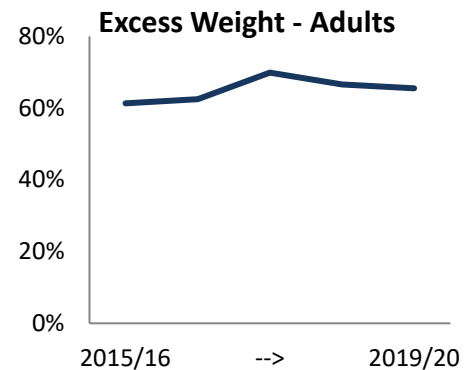
The level of excess weight for 4 to 5 year olds reached 27.7% in England, an increase from 23% in 2019/20. In Yorkshire and Humber, excess weight increased from 24.1% in 2019/20 to 29.5%. At ages 10 to 11, this rate stood at 40.9% in England (an increase from 35.2%), and 42.2% in Yorkshire and Humber in 2020/21 (an increase from 35.8%).

This recent national level data has highlighted that at both ages 4 to 5 and 10 to 11:

- Children living in the most deprived areas were more than twice as likely to be obese, when compared to those living in the least deprived areas.
- There is marked variation in obesity prevalence between different ethnic groups.
- Boys are more likely to be obese than girls.



For adults, obesity levels in Calderdale were above the national average before the pandemic. It is unclear what impact the pandemic will have locally on adult obesity, but the child obesity data above suggests it will rise. It is also likely that households that were already struggling to access healthy foods would experience the greatest impact.



Reduce Inequalities and the causes of deprivation: Mental Health

Summary

The pandemic will have a long term impact on mental health, particularly for the young, women, disabled people and people on low incomes living in urban areas.

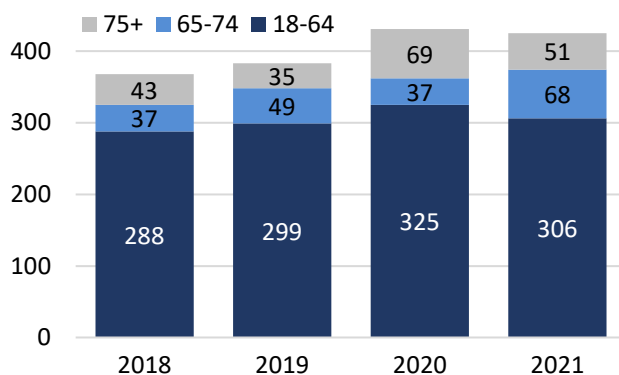
Locally, 57% of residents surveyed last Autumn had good mental wellbeing.

Referrals to adult social care for mental health assessments increased by 13% in 2020, compared with the previous year.

NHS data on mental health services shows a decrease in people in contact services early in the pandemic. Since then, the number of young people in contact with services has increased by 19%, with other age groups declining.

Covid-19, the associated lockdowns and longer term social and economic effects will have a long term impact on mental health. Living through a pandemic could worsen existing mental illness, or cause mental illness for the first time. ONS data shows that almost a fifth of the population experienced depression during first lockdown. The findings identified that younger adults, women, key workers and disabled people were more likely to experience depression. With the exception of key workers, those groups are more likely to experience poor mental health. In October 2021, we conducted a survey of around 400 Calderdale residents regarding their mental wellbeing. Overall, 57% of respondents had good mental wellbeing.

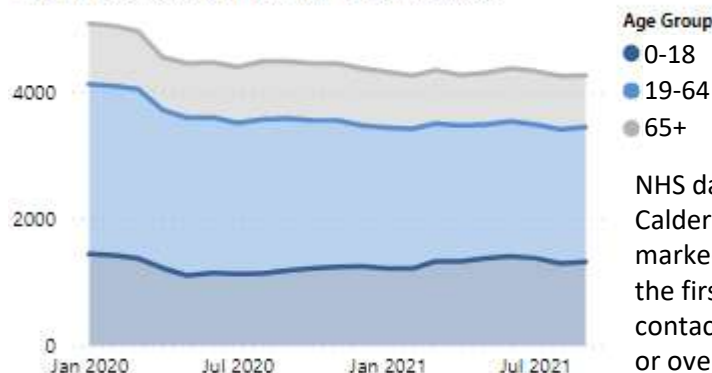
Mental Health Assessment referrals



There was a 13% increase in referrals to the council for mental health assessments in 2020, compared with 2019. In 2020, the increase primarily related to working age adults, but those relating those aged 75 and over also increased. Referrals remained high in 2021, with a marked increase amongst the 65 to 74 age group.

Nationally, charities supporting the elderly reported significant impacts on those with dementia in the early stages of the pandemic, primary relating to isolation and restrictions on visitors in care homes.

People in contact with Mental Health Services



NHS data on people in contact with Mental Health Services in Calderdale is shown in the chart to the left. This shows a marked reduction for all age groups in early 2020, in line with the first wave of the pandemic. Since then, numbers in contact have declined for those aged 19 to 64, and those 65 or over. Conversely, numbers for children and young people have increased, rising from 1105 in May 2020 to 1320 in September 2021, an increase of 19%.

Reduce Inequalities and the causes of deprivation: Food Poverty

Summary

The pandemic led to an unprecedented rise in the use of food banks nationally and locally. Demand peaked during the first wave.

In the early stage of the pandemic, the highest levels of foodbank referrals through the Volunteering Hub were from the North Halifax and South Primary Care Network (Sowerby Bridge and Elland).

The proportion of children attending Calderdale schools eligible for Free School Meals rose to 23%, with 8406 children eligible in October 2021.

The pandemic has led to an unprecedented rise in the use of food banks. Nationally, the Trussell Trust reported a 33% increase in emergency food parcels in 2020, compared to the previous year. Between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021, 2.5 million emergency food parcels were distributed to people in crisis by food banks in the Trussell Trust network.

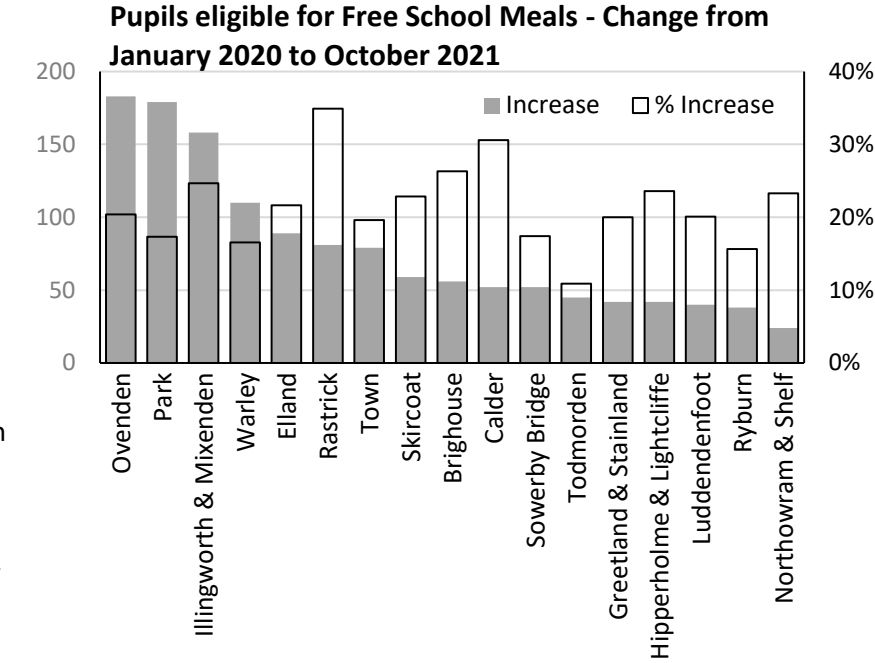
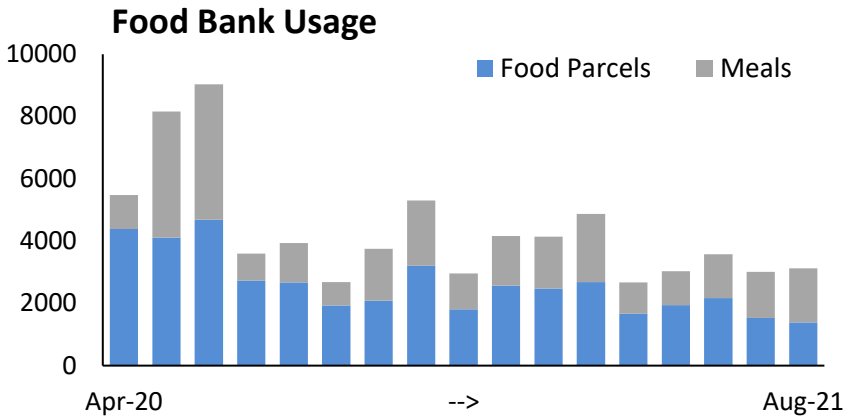
Data collected locally highlights a significant increase during the first lockdown, with over 2000 food parcels and meals distributed in some weeks. Demand continued, with over 1900 food parcels being provided most months up to June 2021. Central Halifax locality had the highest proportion of food parcels distributed at 36%

Signposting to foodbanks was the most common outcome of referrals for support to the volunteering hub. North and South PCNs saw the largest number of foodbank cases in the initial stages of the pandemic.

Free School Meals

In January 2020, 19% (6902) of Calderdale children attending schools in the borough were eligible for free school meals (FSM). By October 2021, the proportion had increased to 23% (8406 children). Overall, this is an increase in FSM eligibility of over a fifth (1504 children) between January 2020 and October 2021.

Every ward saw an increase in children eligible for FSM. Ovenden and Park wards saw the largest absolute increase in numbers of eligible children, with 183 and 179 respectively, across both primary and secondary. Rastrick ward saw the largest proportional increase at 35%, an increase of 81 children. While [changes in FSM eligibility](#) linked to the Universal Credit rollout have meant rising numbers were expected, eligibility has risen beyond those expectations.



Reduce Inequalities and the causes of deprivation:

Financial Resilience

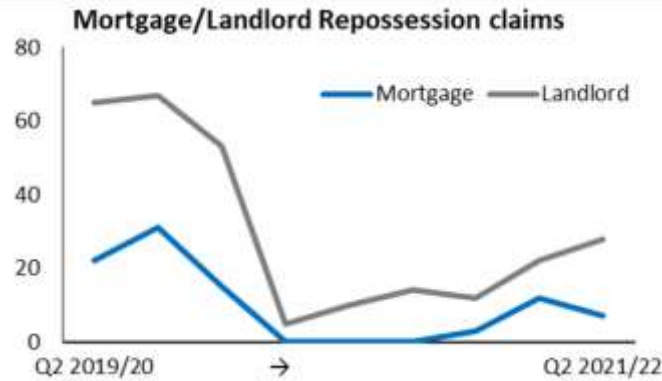
Summary

A range of support measures were put in place during the pandemic, such as a ban on evictions. However, households may now be struggling as many measures have ended, and we could see an increase in people in crisis.

We have already seen an increase in mortgage and landlord repossessions, although numbers remain well below pre-pandemic levels..

Citizen's Advice Calderdale are now supporting significantly more people with debt, with their overall caseload more than doubling.

More local data on poverty related indicators available via [this link](#)



Data to the end of September 2021 on repossessions shows the impact of the suspension of evictions during the pandemic. There were only 15 claims for repossession between January and March 2021. Numbers have subsequently risen slightly and between July and September 2021 there were 35 claims for repossession, of which seven were from mortgage lenders and twenty eight from landlords.

A combination of factors suggest we may see more people in crisis:

- A national eviction ban was in place for the first and third national lockdowns, but has now ended.
- At the end of May 2021, the Joseph Rowntree Trust highlighted that 400,000 tenants nationally had been served with eviction notices or told they will be evicted, with a further 400,000 at risk due to rent arrears.
- Universal Credit sanctions were lifted during the first lockdown, but not for subsequent lockdowns. Calderdale has seen a significant increase in claimants as a result of the pandemic.
- Similarly, the recovery of benefit overpayments was paused during the first lockdown, but has been in place since then.
- Local take up of the council tax reduction scheme rose by 11% at the end of June 2020. This indicates an increase in households experiencing financial hardship.
- Research by the Resolution Foundation highlighted inequality in relation to living costs during the pandemic, with those on low incomes struggling to make ends meet, compared with more affluent households saving money through reduced expenditure on commuting, holidays etc.
- At the end of June 2021, Citizen's Advice Calderdale supported 1019 people experiencing issues with debt, an increase from 204 in December 2019. Their caseload more than doubled over the same period, increasing from 680 to 1861.
- The Coronavirus Job Retention scheme and the Self Employment Income Support schemes both ended in September 2021. A study by Which? suggested furloughed workers were three times more likely to default on payments.

Reduce Inequalities: Homelessness and households in temporary accommodation

Summary

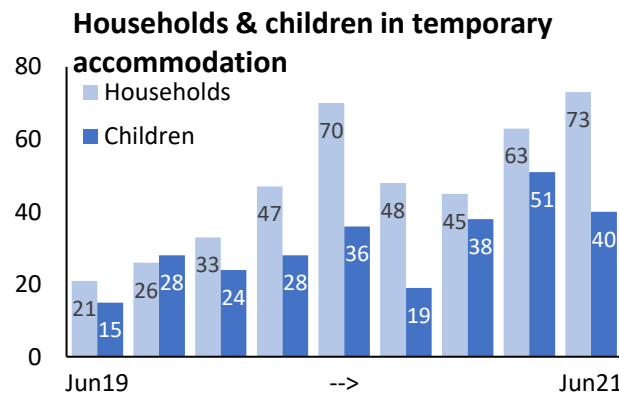
Although fewer households were assessed for homelessness between April and June 2020, the proportion assessed as being owed a relief duty increased. More recently, there has been a reduction in the number of households assessed and owed a duty.

The number of people in temporary accommodation has increased during the pandemic. In particular, the number of children in temporary accommodation has been increasing since the start of the pandemic, with single female parents being the largest group.

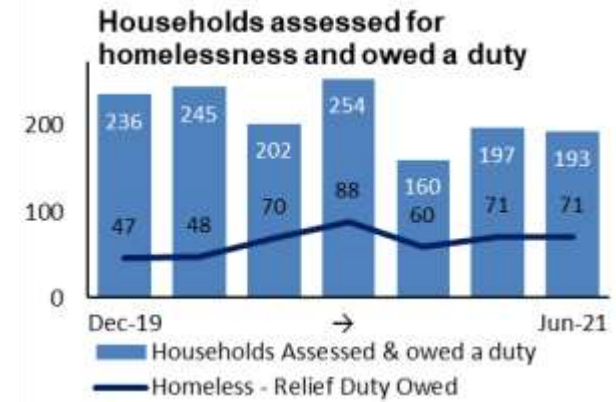
The number of households assessed for homelessness reduced significantly between September and December 2020. Numbers then increased in the first two quarters for 2021 but at lower levels than recorded before the pandemic.

The number of people in temporary accommodation has increased, for all groups, during the pandemic. Individuals, without dependent children, continue to be the largest group, with single males reaching 30 in June 2021.

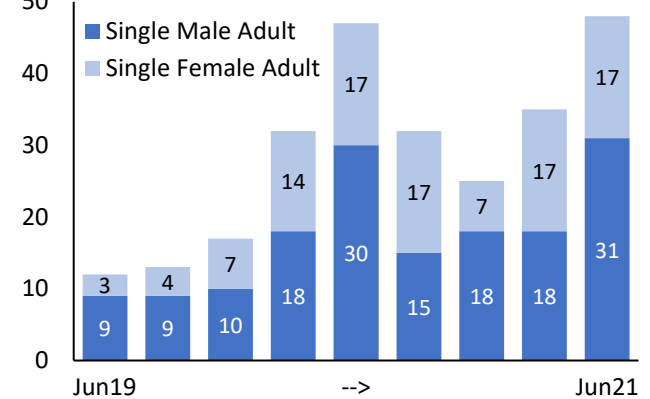
Households in temporary accommodation in Calderdale increased during the first lockdown, reaching 70 households and 36 children at the end of June 2020. Subsequently, numbers declined between July and December 2020, before increasing again in the first half of 2021, rising above the levels seen in 2020. Single female parents with dependent children, rather than male, are more likely to be in temporary accommodation.



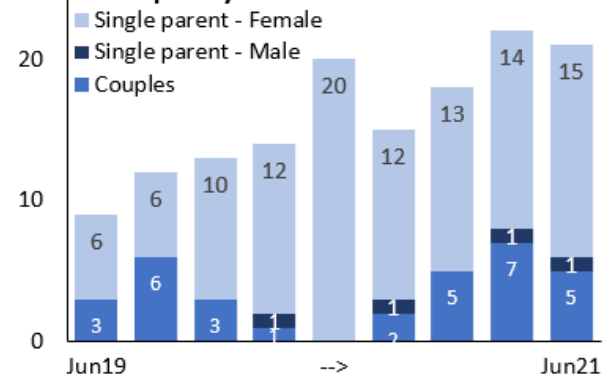
All data as at 14th January 2022



Individuals without dependent children in temporary accommodation



Households with dependent children in temporary accommodation



Reduce Inequalities and the causes of deprivation: Children and young people

Summary

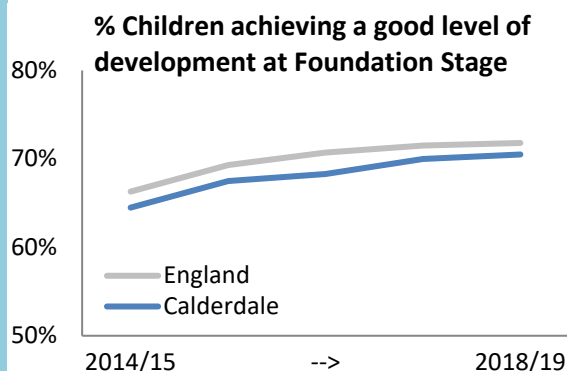
The long term impacts on educational outcomes will remain unclear for some time. It is likely those from disadvantaged backgrounds will be most affected, widening the attainment gap.

National research highlights concerns from primary schools regarding child development, including delayed speech and language issues.

The long term sustainability of the childcare sector is at risk, following the implementation of national lockdowns and the subsequent change in working practices.

A continuing lack of parental demand for some childcare, confidence in childcare and workforce recruitment and retention pressures may also impact on child development.

The impact of lockdowns and disrupted school attendance on children and young people is likely to vary across Calderdale. The attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils and their classmates is expected to grow.



Children at the start of their academic journey could be amongst the hardest hit by the pandemic. A survey of 58 primary schools in England highlighted that 76% of those starting school in September 2020 needed more support with communication than in previous years. 96% of schools surveyed highlighted concerns about speech and language development. As a result, we could expect to see inequality in child development in year to come.

The Foundation Stage Profile is a key national data source on child development. The collection of that data was cancelled last year and is not mandatory in 2021. We may therefore not have a more comprehensive understanding of the impact of the pandemic until Autumn 2022.

This has been another challenging year for the early years and childcare sector. In 2021, there was a net loss of 84 childcare places (316 opened against 400 closed). This is an improvement from 2020, where there were 154 new places, compared with 538. A significant oversupply of wraparound childcare for school age children has been noted this year, as some parents continue to work from home.

Predicting future sufficiency and sustainability in Calderdale remains difficult. It is dependent on a variety of factors linked to the national recovery from the pandemic. This will impact on future parental demand, the employment market and Government funding rates. Disruption to the labour market as a result of COVID-19 will continue to have a considerable impact on families' working lives. Recruitment and retention of childcare and early years staff is a key concern for many providers. There is some evidence that this is limiting the offer of free early education places to two year olds.

Reduce Inequalities and the causes of deprivation: Community Safety

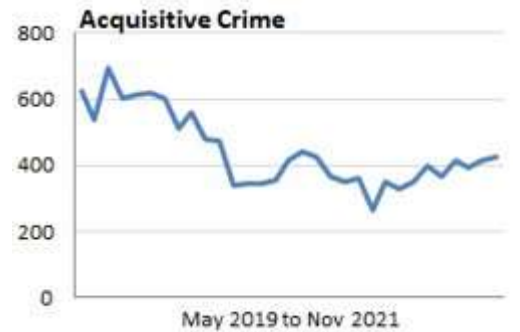
Summary
 Acquisitive crime figures are rising slowly, but remain 39% below the high of July 2019. Total recorded crime is returning to pre pandemic levels, after falling significantly in 2020.

After increasing during the lockdowns, anti-social behaviour incidents have declined.

Domestic abuse referrals are increasing gradually. Office and home face to face visits have resumed, after ceasing during the lockdowns.

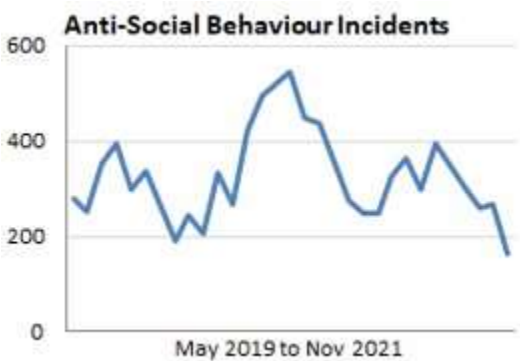
After increasing in 2020, 2021 saw further increases in hate crimes. Race crimes account for 60% of 2021 hate crimes recorded.

Further details on most types of crime in Calderdale available via this [link](#)

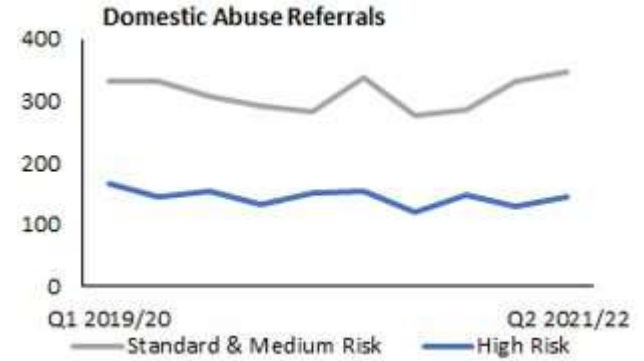


Acquisitive crime has started to rise, with 428 incidents reported in November 2021. This is 39% less than the high of July 2019 (697), but one to keep an eye on.

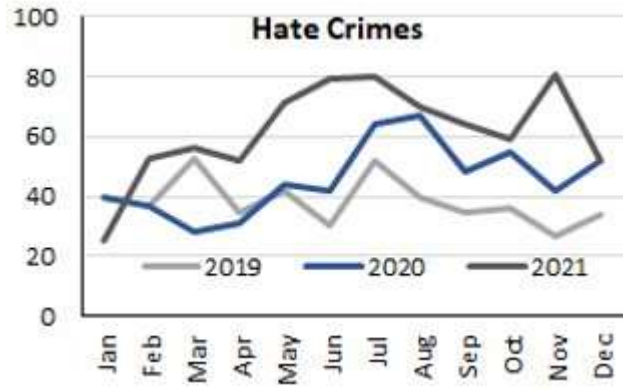
Total crime in Calderdale for April to November 2021, shows an increase of 13.5% compared to the same period last year and 0.5% compared to the same period in 2019.



The last few months to November 2021 has shown a downward trend. There has been a 70% decrease in November 2021 (165), compared to the high of August 2020 (546).



Domestic abuse referrals are generally stable, with a little fluctuation during the summer months. The impact of Covid on the mental health, finances and alcohol consumption of the population is likely to have an impact on the level of domestic abuse experienced by victims. Community and office/home face to face visits have resumed, but open access has not due to the difficulties controlling covid risk. Training remains virtual and working practices are under constant review to take into account new variants/restrictions.



Hate crimes have increased by 35% in 2021, compared to 2020. Race related crimes account for 60% of the hate crimes reported in 2021.

Reduce Inequalities and the causes of deprivation: VCS and cultural sector

Summary

The 3 key issues affecting VCS organisations at this time are:

- Financial Support / Funding
- Inability to run activities
- Furloughed staff / volunteering / retention

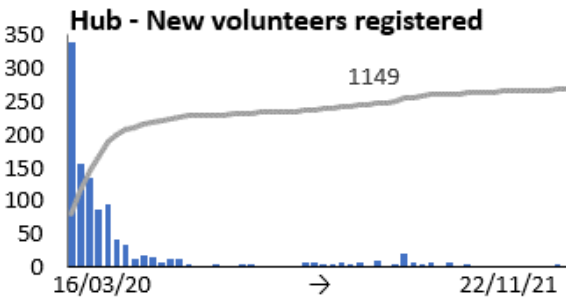
Over 1,000 people came forward to volunteer and support us during the first and subsequent lockdowns.

Calderdale Sector Resilience Survey highlights

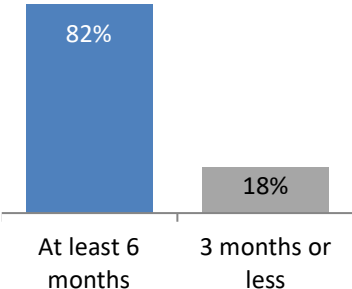
67 voluntary and community sector organisations responded to the resilience survey in May 2020. Highlights include:

- 68% were from micro/small voluntary and community sector organisations, with turnover under £100k
- 73% decrease in active volunteers across the Calderdale VCS, falling from 1598 to 427.* However, 31% of respondents have been linking in with volunteer programmes e.g. CMBC, VSI Alliance, NHS.
- 8% of staff have been furloughed.
- The 3 key issues affecting organisation at this time are: financial support / funding, inability to run activities and furloughed staff / volunteering / retention
- 47% of respondents have seen an increase in demand for their services, with 22% reporting no change in demand.
- 82% could remain financially stable for at least another 6 months in the current environment. The remaining 18% could remain stable for 3 months or less.
- Approximately a quarter of respondents earn over 50% of their income from trading, room hire etc.
- Out of the 29 respondents who applied for funding during Covid-19, 64% were successful.
- 69% of respondents were seeing no change or increased service delivery demand, but a significant decline in active volunteers, adding pressure to the organisation’s capacity.

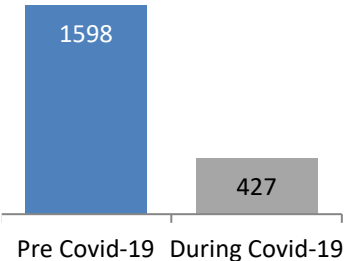
We saw an incredible response from the VCS sector. Over 1100 people came forward to volunteer to support us from March 2020 onwards (see chart opposite). Since summer 2020, these have dropped a lot to 292 active volunteers. These volunteers are now being managed by the VSI volunteering hub and continuing to support people isolating. Others now support the Staying Well befriending programmes. However, more generally, the sector has been negatively impacted by lockdown.



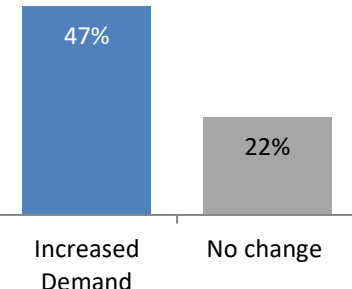
Financial Stability



Active Volunteers



Demand for Services



Developing Sustainable Towns: Unemployment

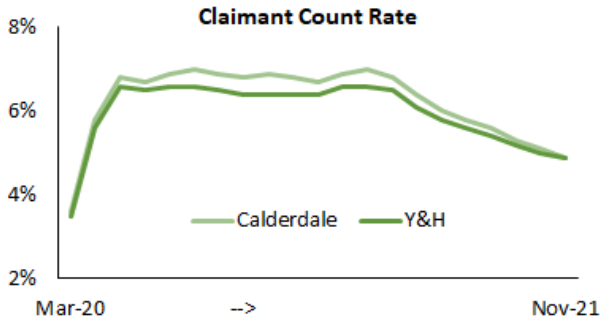
Summary

Employment has been falling in Calderdale since 2018. The number of benefit claimants increased sharply during the first lockdown and remained high. However, the percentage of unemployment benefit claimants has now fallen, from 7% in March 2021 to 4.9% in November 2021, in line with the regional average. All wards show at least a 22% decrease.

Proportionally, younger adults saw the largest increases in claimants. Calderdale already had a higher proportion for people aged 18 to 24 claiming unemployed benefits, compared to regional and national averages. That disparity grew significantly during the first wave and has remained largely unchanged.

Those with the lowest qualifications will experience the biggest impact of any economic downturn.

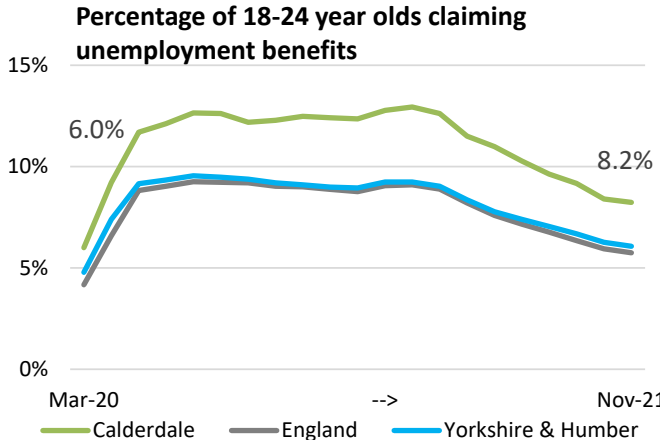
The number of people in employment in Calderdale has been falling since 2018. At that time, 104,700 people were in employment. Before the start of the pandemic in March 2020, that had reached 96,800. The latest data, covering the year to the end of June 2021, shows a slight increase to 98,700 people.



The Claimant Count Rate increased significantly from 3.6% in March 2020, peaking at 7% in August 2020 and March 2021. There has been a steady decrease since then, to 4.9% in November 2021. This is the first time it has been in line with the regional average since August 2017. All wards show at least a 27% decrease in the claimant count rate comparing November 2021 to March 2021, except Park with a 22% reduction. In November 2021, Park had 44% more than the next highest ward, accounting for 17.1% of the total count.

The chart above right confirms that young people in Calderdale are disproportionately affected, with 8.2% (1,225) of all 18-24 year olds in Calderdale claiming unemployment benefits in November 2021. The number of young people claiming unemployment benefits has seen a month on month decrease since the peak in March 2021 (1,975 – 12.9%).

The Impact on the Labour Market briefing (May 2021) stated that payroll data showed 57% of job losses between March 2020 and April 2021 were among under 25's. The proportion of young people in full time education reached its highest level in July-September 2020, since comparable records began in 1992. The Resolution Foundation suggested that many graduates delayed their entry into the labour market by staying in education. The pandemic caused a shift in the sectors young people typically work in. Most notably, the proportion of young people decreased in areas such as arts, food services, accommodation, entertainment and recreation. The proportion increased in public administration, wholesale and retail trade, professional scientific and technical activities.

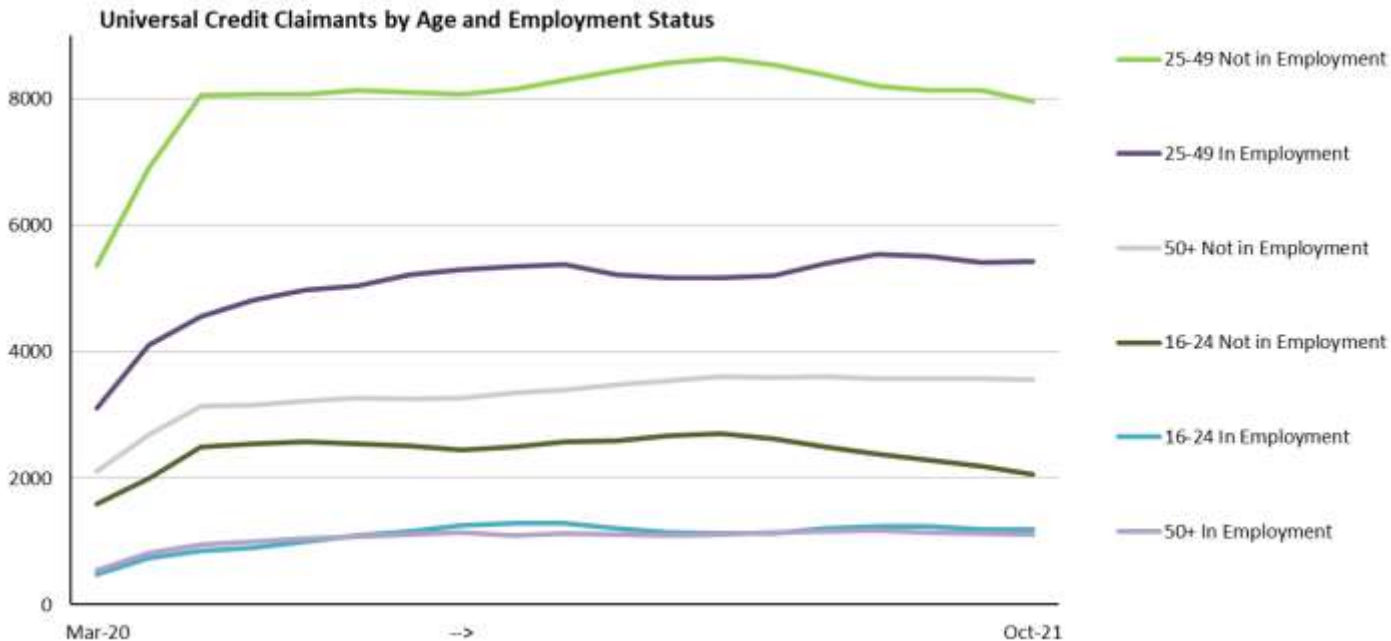


Developing Sustainable Towns: Universal Credit

Summary

2020 saw a marked increase in Universal Credit claimants, with the largest numbers of claimants being in the 25 to 49 age group. Claimants aged 16 to 24 saw the largest proportional increase, rising by 163% between March 2020 and October 2021.

More local data on Universal Credit take up is available via this [link](#).



There were significant increases in Universal Credit claimants in 2020, with the initial increase corresponding with the first lockdown. Those increases have largely been sustained, with some groups seeing further increases, most notably those aged 25 to 49 in employment. Overall, there was a 61% increase in claimants in Calderdale between March 2020 and October 2021.

Those aged 16 to 24 in employment experienced the largest proportional increase in claimants, rising from 475 in March 2020 to 1247 in October 2021, an increase of 163%. Those aged 50+ in employment saw a 102% increase in the number of claimants, from 551 in March 2020 to 1115 in October 2021.

According to the Resolution Foundation, 33% of 18-24 year olds and 23% of 55-56 year olds who were employed before the pandemic experienced a 3+ month period of unemployment, full furlough, or being self-employed without work by October 2021, compared to 19% of workers aged 25-54.

Developing Sustainable Towns: Universal Credit continued

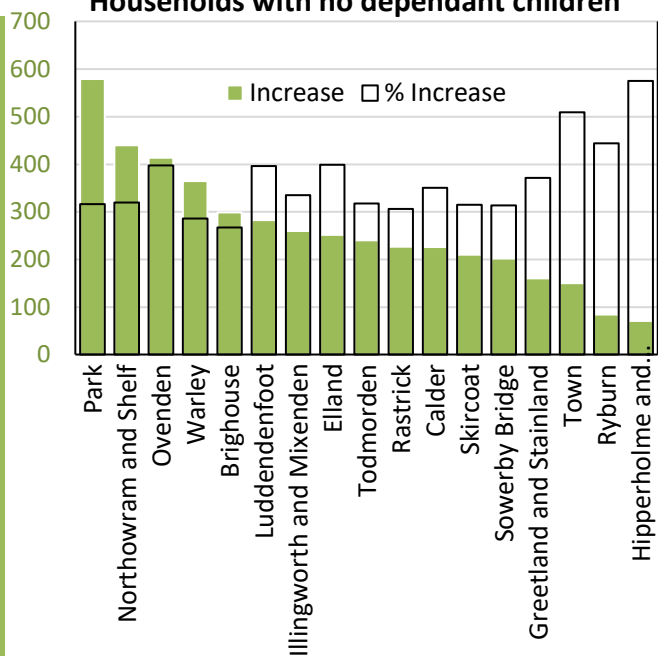
Summary

Most new Universal Credit claimants live in households with no dependent children. Between March 2020 and July 2021, Park ward saw the largest increase in claimant households with no dependant children, as well as the largest increase for households with dependent children.

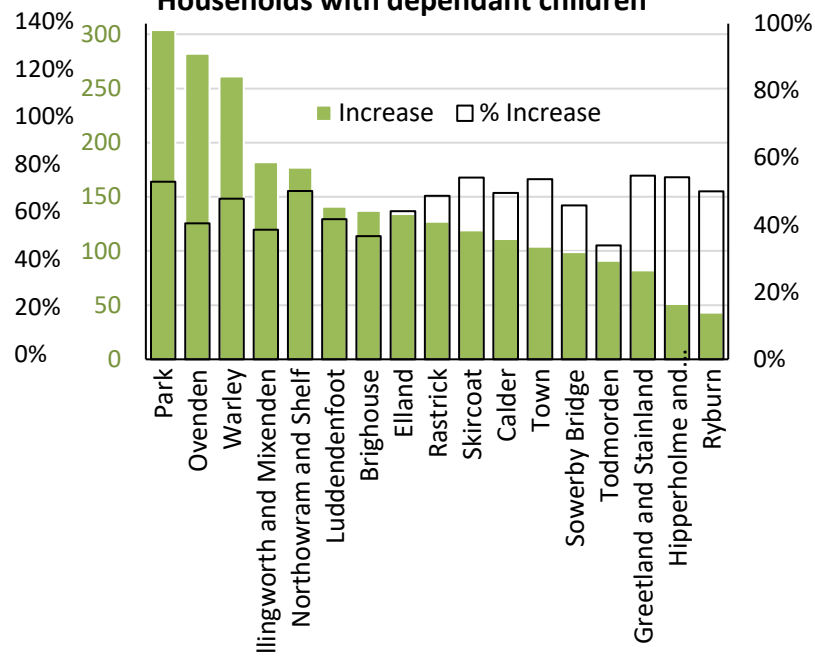
In October 2021, women not in employment were the largest group claiming Universal Credit in Calderdale, a change from men in employment in our previous update. Men in employment saw the largest proportional increase in claimants.

More local data on Universal Credit take up is available via this [link](#).

Universal Credit Claimant Increase - Households with no dependant children



Universal Credit Claimant Increase - Households with dependant children



The charts above show the increase in Universal Credit claimants between March 2020 and July 2021. Households with no dependant children saw the largest increases in claimant numbers.

The chart above left shows by ward the increase in the number of claimant households with no dependent children. It also highlights the percentage increase in claimant households over the same period. This identifies Park as the ward with the largest increase in claimant households with 579, and Hipperholme and Lightcliffe as the ward with the largest proportional increase at 115%.

For claimant households with dependent children, Park ward again saw the largest increase in claimants between March 2020 and January 2021, with 304. The largest proportional increase was seen in Greetland and Stainland ward with 55%.

Analysis of October 2021 Universal Credit data by gender shows that women not in employment are now the largest group with 6747 claimants, compared with 6617 men. The largest proportional increase in claimants continues to relate to men in employment, which saw an additional 1791 claimants, representing a 135% increase.

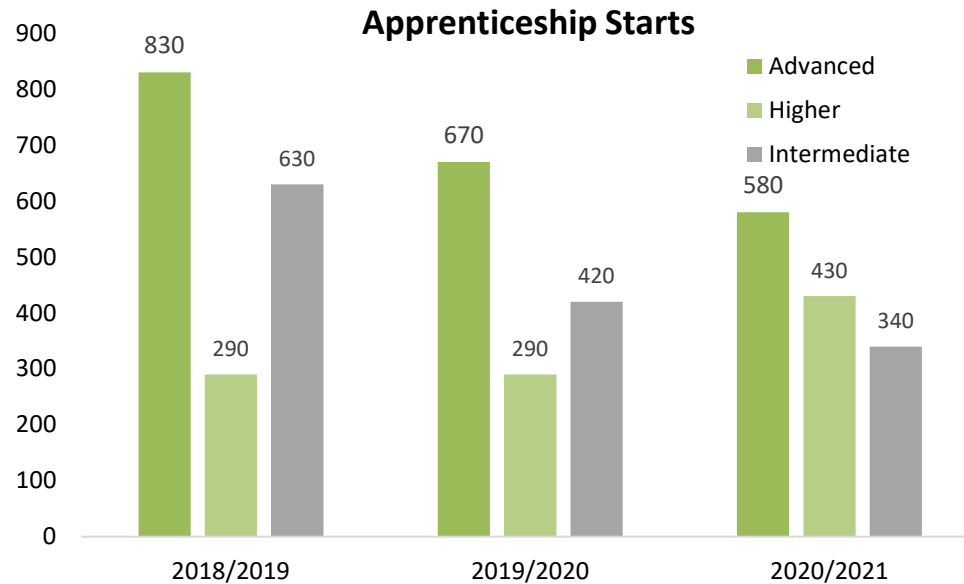
Developing Sustainable Towns: Apprenticeships

Summary

There is a reducing trend in apprenticeship starts, both nationally and locally. This reduction began before the pandemic, but has since accelerated.

In terms of levels, advanced apprenticeships saw the largest decrease in starts with 90 fewer starts in 2020/21 than 2019/20. There were 80 fewer intermediate apprenticeship starts in the same time period.

The Under 19 age group saw the largest decrease in apprenticeships starts with 100 fewer starts in 2020/21 than 2019/20, with the highest impact on the higher apprenticeships for this age group.



Impact on Apprenticeships

Prior to the onset of the pandemic, the number of apprenticeship starts was declining, both nationally and locally. In 2017/18, 1750 apprenticeships started in Calderdale, a 33% reduction from 2015/16. This corresponds with the introduction of the Apprenticeships Levy in April 2017. This is thought to have led to a shift towards higher level apprenticeships, which impacted more heavily on those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

National data reports a continuing decrease in apprenticeships was seen in 2019/20 due to the impact of the pandemic with those already on apprenticeships also affected, with just 39% continuing as normal nationally in April 2020. The downward trend in starts has continued in the latest 2020/21 data.

The largest fall in apprenticeship starts in Calderdale was in the Under 19 age group from 420 starts in 2019/20 to 320 in 2020/21. In terms of levels, intermediate and advanced apprenticeships both saw a further decrease in the number of starts in 2020/21. For the first time in 2 years higher apprenticeships saw an increase in the number of starts from 290 to 430 (48% increase).

The relationship with the College is still in place to continue our engagement with students about the impact Covid19 has had on their aspirations and future prospects.

Developing Sustainable Towns: Business Sectors and Surveys

Summary

The make up of the economy locally is broadly similar to regional and national averages. However, Calderdale retains a high proportion of jobs in manufacturing roles, as well as higher proportions of the workforce in services related businesses (particularly financial and insurance services).

A recent regional business survey identified stronger recovery amongst manufacturing businesses, although many had been forced to reduce their workload and increase prices.

Service sector businesses have also experienced financial losses and workforce reductions, but to a lesser extent.

The table opposite outlines the number of local jobs by industry type. The distribution of jobs is broadly similar to the picture regionally and nationally, although there are some notable differences locally:

- Calderdale has a higher proportion of manufacturing roles, with 14% compared with 11.4% regionally and 8% nationally.
- Financial & Insurance, combined with Administrative & Support services, make up 17.4% of jobs locally. This is compared with 11.2% regionally and 12.4% nationally.
- Just under 11% of local jobs are in health and social care roles, compared with 14.2% regionally and 13.1% nationally.

The Mid Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce recently published their Quarterly Economic Survey for quarter 3 of 2021. Based on a sample of 367 businesses across West and North Yorkshire, the findings offer useful insight on the impact of Covid-19, as well as leaving the EU, particularly given the make up of the economy locally:

- Sales rebounded in the last quarter. Forward orders also showed strong increases.
- Foreign sales remain largely subdued in the last quarter although forward orders look more promising.
- 1 in 2 manufacturers and 40% of services businesses reported recruitment activity in the last quarter. The number of companies looking to increase headcount next quarter is also back to pre-Covid levels. Recruitment challenges remain however, with all subsectors reporting some challenges finding suitably qualified staff.
- Intentions for both capital and training moved back to pre-Covid levels once more. Following more than a year of holding back on investment, many firms are now moving forward with plans.
- Expectations of increasing turnover and profits also bounced back strongly in the last quarter.
- Increases in input costs driven by supply chain challenges and a surge in global demand for raw materials, components and construction products.

Industry	Employees	%
Wholesale And Retail Trade; Repair Of Motor Vehicles And Motorcycles	14000	15%
Manufacturing	13000	14%
Health & Social Work	10000	11%
Administrative & Support Services	9000	10%
Education	8000	9%
Financial & Insurance	7000	8%
Accommodation & Food Service	6000	7%
Professional, Scientific & Technical	5000	5%
Construction	5000	5%
Transportation And Storage	3500	4%
Public Administration And Defence; Compulsory Social Security	3000	3%
Other Services	2500	3%
Arts, Entertainment And Recreation	2000	2%
Information & Communication	2000	2%
Other - real estate, water, mining etc	1710	2%

Developing Sustainable Towns: Business Surveys – Calderdale

Findings from the Leeds City Region Business Survey 2021

Summary

178 businesses from Calderdale took part in the 2021 Leeds City Region Business Survey. This provides a snapshot of business confidence, investment experiences and issues that are currently affecting businesses.

Most of the sample for Calderdale consisted of private sector businesses (91%), with 82% of these being micro businesses employing 1-9 employees and a further 15% being small businesses employing 10-49 employees.

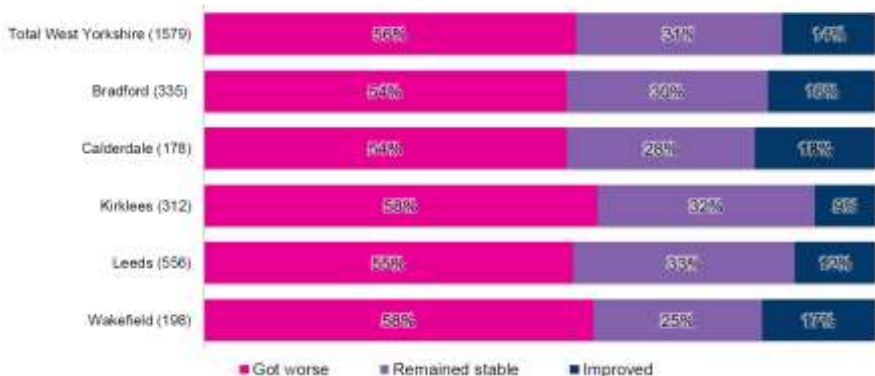
Businesses considered COVID-19 restrictions as the largest barrier to growth over the next 3 years.

The full published report can be accessed [here](#).

Over the previous year, 54% of business reported worsening performance, with 28% stating that performance had remained stable. Some recovery was expected in the coming year, with 48% of businesses anticipating an improvement in performance with 18% anticipating worsening performance.

60% of businesses reported a decrease in turnover, with just under three quarters (72%) reporting negative financial impacted, resulting from the irus pandemic and associated social and trading restrictions. Across the region, this impact was felt in all sectors, but was most evident within hotels/catering (81%) and other services (87%).

Business performance in past 12 months



Actions as a response to Covid-19: Workforce

	Total West Yorkshire (1579)	Bradford (335)	Calderdale (178)	Kirklees (312)	Leeds (556)	Wakefield (198)
Furloughed staff or used the Job Retention or Job Support Scheme	66%	58%	69%	70%	66%	73%
Provided facilities for remote working	48%	39%	43%	42%	51%	53%
Reduced staff working hours	35%	33%	35%	34%	37%	37%
Asked staff to take on additional tasks	26%	28%	24%	25%	26%	24%
Laid off staff permanently/made staff redundant	18%	17%	14%	17%	19%	19%
Moved staff to new or different roles	16%	15%	12%	15%	17%	16%
Recruited staff for the longer term	14%	19%	11%	7%	14%	16%
Recruited staff for the short term	9%	8%	7%	7%	10%	9%
Increased staff working hours	8%	8%	9%	7%	9%	8%
Laid off staff in the short-term without furlough	7%	7%	9%	8%	5%	5%
Other	7%	8%	10%	5%	6%	10%
Summary: Any measure	92%	91%	92%	92%	92%	94%
No measures taken	8%	9%	8%	8%	8%	6%

69% of businesses reported having to furlough staff, using the Job Retention or Job Support Scheme. 35% reduced staff working hours, with 14% making staff redundant. 43% of business provided the means for staff to work remotely.

Skill gaps were most evident in sales and marketing (35%), and digital/advanced IT (33%) skill. These two sectors are most closely linked with online trading. 33% also reported as not having any skills that need improving in their business.

Two thirds of businesses (67%) made changes to their processes/ways of working to mitigate the impacts of the pandemic, and any associated trading restrictions, with over a third (37%) reducing their productivity as a result of the various measures they took.

Few businesses (10%) reported hard to fill vacancies over the previous year. This is likely to reflect lower levels of recruitment as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, but also may reflect more candidates chasing fewer vacancies, again as a result of the pandemic. Technical, specialist or job specific skills remain the area in which businesses report it is difficult to recruit.

Developing Sustainable Towns: Business environment

Summary

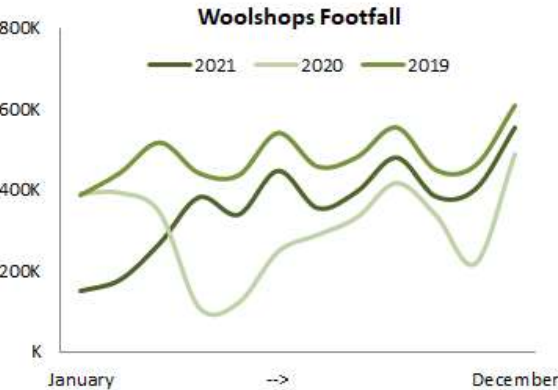
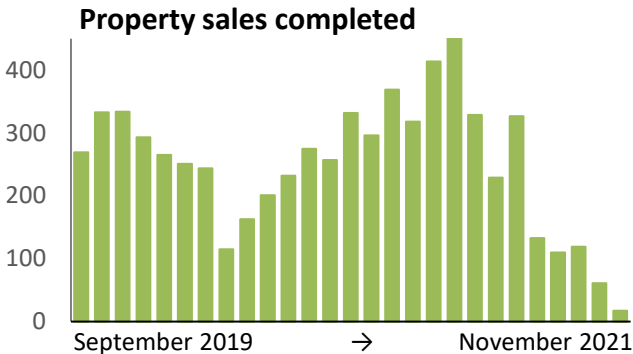
The six months prior to the start of the pandemic saw a fall in the volume of property sales. The first lockdown led to a further reduction, before a period of almost continual growth for 11 months.

Footfall data for the Woolshops shows an encouraging improvement with the easing of restrictions. There was an 18% increase in 2021 compared to 2020. The graph clearly shows the impact of these restrictions, with a recovery in December 2021, almost returning to pre-pandemic levels.

Nationally, data suggests towns in areas with lower average wages have seen the strongest retail recovery.

The chart opposite suggests the beginning of a shift in the local economy, prior to the onset of the pandemic. This indicates a fall in property sales from November 2019 onwards. Sales have increased significantly since the end of the first lockdown. Sales peaked in March 2021 and have fallen almost continually since.

[Property sales: HM Land Registry data © Crown copyright and database right 2020. This data is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.]



Footfall data for the Woolshops centre shows an increase of 18% in 2021 compared to 2020. Although down 25% on 2019 figures, the figures improved from -61% in January to -9% in December. The graph clearly shows the impact of the national and local restrictions. The easing of restrictions has shown an encouraging improvement which will hopefully continue into 2022.

Nationally, data suggests areas with lower average wages experienced faster recovery in town centre spend, compared to more affluent areas. This may reflect a higher proportion of spend on essential items, which will have been sustained through the pandemic, compared to spend on non-essential items. The distinctiveness of particular towns may also play a role in recovery.

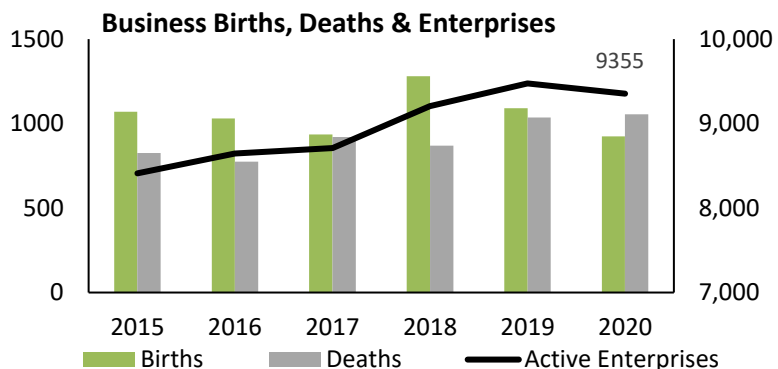
Developing Sustainable Towns: Business environment

Summary

The Government allocated £65 million to Calderdale from the Coronavirus business grant fund during the first lockdown, supporting 5,231 businesses. Further grants have been made available during subsequent lockdowns.

2020 saw an increase in business start-ups, based on new business bank account data. Business demography data for 2020 shows a slight decrease in the overall number of active enterprises.

The tourism and creative sectors are likely to have experienced significant losses as a result of the pandemic. 90% of creative sector businesses, responding to a West Yorkshire survey, reported financial losses. A regional study, undertaken across the north of England, estimated 20% of hospitality and leisure business expected to cease trading before summer 2021.



The latest ONS Business Demography data (2020) highlights 9,355 active enterprises in Calderdale, which is a slight decrease on the previous year. The number of births of new enterprises decreased from 1090 in 2019 to 925 in 2020. The number of deaths of new enterprises saw a slight increase over the same period. 89.9% of the newly born enterprises in 2019 were still active in 2020.

Business Start Ups

Data shared regionally, based on new business bank accounts, showed 1232 new business start ups in 2020, compared with 1139 for 2019.

Business Grants

The Government made a range of measures available to support local businesses during the pandemic. Local Restrictions Support Grants were introduced during the November 2020 lockdown and subsequent restrictions. The grant provided support for both open and closed businesses. Locally, the council received over 3000 applications.

Creative Sector

A survey undertaken in West Yorkshire of 40 creative sector organisations, between May and June 2020, identified the following:

- 30% had already, or were planning to, make changes in respect of employment
- 90% had suffered financial losses
- 56% of those continuing to trade reported risks to long term (12 months) viability without financial assistance.

Developing Sustainable Towns: Tourism

Summary

The 2020 Calderdale Cambridge report shows, as anticipated, a decline across the board for the visitor economy in Calderdale during 2020. However, it's important to note that restrictions on travel meant that the collection of data for the national surveys (used to support the Cambridge Model templates) was unavailable.

The only valid way to provide figures for 2020 was to apply the published national decline in visitor numbers and spend (where available) to the Cambridge Model data from the previous year. This therefore provides only an indicative overview and caution is urged when making a direct comparison between the data sets.

Restrictions on travel and social gatherings continued until well into Quarter 3 2021. Despite this, anecdotal evidence from accommodation providers across Calderdale suggested strong bookings for short breaks and longer stays, during the last half of 2021.

The recent emergence of the Omicron variant led to many cancelled bookings, as people minimised social contact. The impact of this was felt most severely by hospitality businesses. Posts on social media channels showed that some businesses were closing their doors in the run up to Christmas, as cancelled / reduced bookings no longer made it financially viable to remain open. Staff needing to isolate also influenced businesses closures.

As part of work to support the borough's ongoing recovery from the continued impacts of COVID-19, a new place development team has been set up to provide a link between the Council and businesses and communities. The team are working closely with local businesses, gaining valuable feedback about issues they face. This is helping them to identify the best ways to support and promote initiatives to create a safe environment for visitors. This has included arranging training for businesses on measures they can implement to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Businesses taking part will be awarded certificates to demonstrate that their employees have the knowledge to keep visitors as safe as possible. Local businesses have also been offered training and support to help attract visitors, including how to improve their digital skills and boost their online presence. As well as the opportunity to be featured on the newly relaunched Visit Calderdale website (www.visitcalderdale.com). The team are working closely with Town Boards, Business Improvement Districts (BID), business forums, local community groups and other external partners to identify growth development opportunities and create a sustainable and thriving high street to aid long-term recovery

Research from VisitBritain in December 2021 shows that for the UK public:

- 'Personal finances' were perceived to be the biggest barrier to taking overnight UK trips between April to June, 26% followed by 'restrictions on travel' (24%). For overseas trips, the 'risk of quarantine' and 'restrictions on travel from the government' are the biggest barriers - both at 30%.
- Over half (55%) of the UK public plan on taking an overnight domestic trip in the next 12 months (by the end of November 2022), significantly more than the 44% planning to take an overnight overseas trip in this period.
- Around half of the UK population are confident that any booked UK holiday or short break would go ahead in December, dropping in January and February, before picking up from March onwards. Confidence for overseas trips is lower than for UK trips, with only a third being confident in the ability to take an overnight trip abroad.
- 'A private home' is the leading accommodation choice for December 2021 to March 2022 (at 47%) with 'commercial rental' close behind (45%). Between April and June 2022, 'camping/caravan' is the leading accommodation choice (43%).

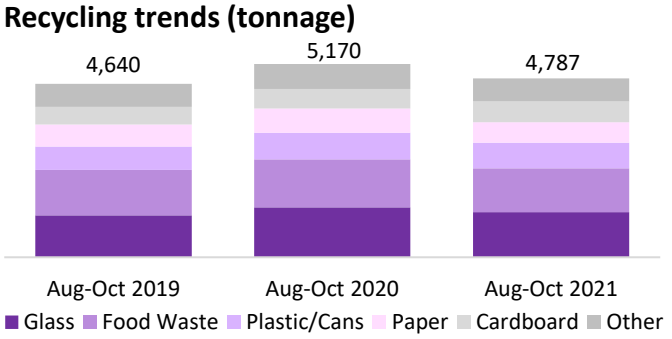
Take Action on the Climate Emergency: Recycling, Flytipping & CO² emissions

Summary

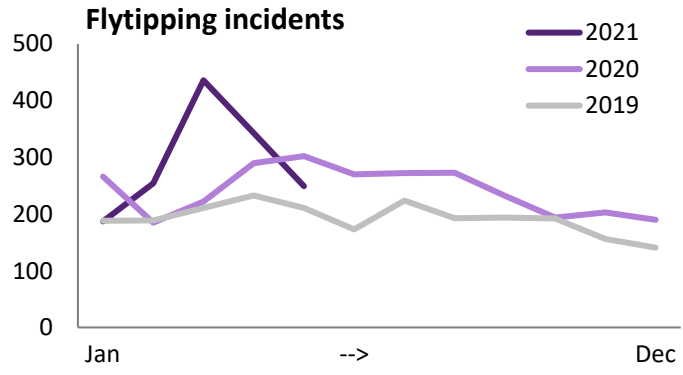
Recycling increased in 2020, compared to 2019, with glass and cardboard seeing the largest increases in tonnage.

Fly tipping incidents in Calderdale increased by 25.7% in 2020, with large increases after the first lockdown and over the summer. Figures for 2021 to date show a 30% increase on levels in 2019.

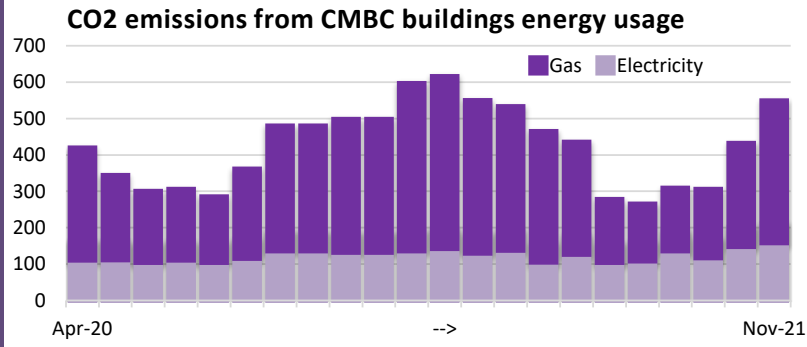
Greenhouse gas (CO²) emissions from energy consumption in council buildings has fallen by 16%. Home workers are estimated to be spending an extra £32 a month on utility bills.



The total volume of recycling between August and October 2021 was 7% lower than the same period in 2020 and 3% higher than the same period in 2019. Cardboard, plastic/cans and glass saw the largest increases proportionally compared to 2019, at 17%, 10% and 8% respectively.



Locally collected data on fly tipping incidents shows an overall 25.7% increase in 2020, compared to 2019. The latest data also shows a significant increase in March 2021, pushing the year to date figures (end of May) 30% above the levels seen by the same point in 2019. Much of the increase relates to central areas of Calderdale.

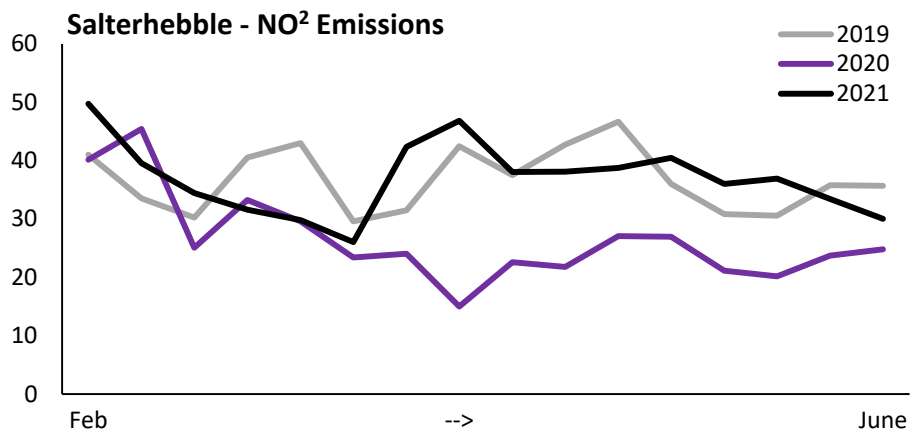


Comparing data for April to March 2020 and 2021 highlights a 16% reduction in CO2 emissions from CMBC buildings. The overall reduction in council energy usage corresponds with a shift towards homeworking for a significant proportion of the workforce. The Energy & Climate Unit estimates home boiler usage will increase by 56% as a result of home working, with monthly energy bills increasing on average by £32.

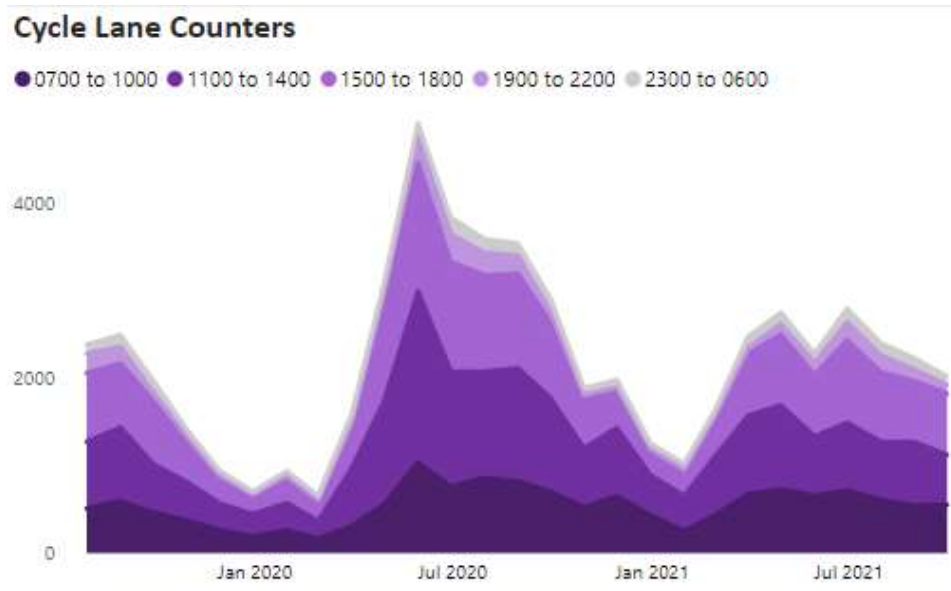
Take Action on the Climate Emergency: Traffic, Emissions and Active Travel

Summary
 The first lockdown led to a dramatic reduction in the volume of traffic on Calderdale's roads, with a corresponding fall in levels of NO² emissions. NO² levels have since increased, which is likely to reflect a shift away from public transport to personal car use.

The number of people cycling increased during the first lockdown, remaining well above previous levels in 2020. This is likely to relate to an increase in cycling for leisure, with Saturdays seeing the highest increases. More recent data suggests a drop-off in cycling numbers.



The emission of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO²) is associated with the combustion of petrol and diesel. The chart to the left compares NO² emissions at Salterhebble, between February and June, for 2019, 2020 and 2021. This shows a significant drop in NO² emissions in 2020. NO² levels in 2021 were following a similar trend to 2020, until a significant increase in April, above pre pandemic levels. This is likely to reflect increased traffic following the end of the second national lockdown.



There are 3 cycle lane counters in locations on the canal towpath in Mytholmroyd, Friendly and Sowerby Bridge. The chart to the left shows the number of cyclists travelling eastwards, captured by the Sowerby Bridge counter. This shows a significant increase in cycling in 2020, peaking in April during the first lockdown. The chart is shaded by time of day, which highlights large increases in cycling during the middle of the day. The largest increase by day of the week was for Saturday, which has seen cycling more than double. Recent data suggests the number of people cycling has fallen significantly from the levels seen in 2020.