



# **Evaluation of Newcastle's 'Cooperative' Approach to the Prevention and Management of Homelessness in Light of Changing Government Policy**

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# Research Topics

1. The impacts of policy change on service delivery and service users.
2. The strengths of Newcastle's approach.
3. The weaknesses of Newcastle's approach.
4. Newcastle's priorities for the future.
5. How Newcastle City Council's performance compares to other local authorities.

# Reduction in Public Spending

- 40% budget cut over 3 years.
  - Impact on administration of services.
  - Limited impact on service offer and service users.
- Removal of Supporting People ring fence, £6m lost in 2012-13.
  - £1m regional budget for single homelessness.
  - Limited impact on provision.
- Ending of Places of Change programme severely limited capital improvements.
  - Cherry Tree View notable exception.

# Welfare Reform

- 36,000 affected households.
- £102 million loss to local economy.
- Fear of increased homelessness.
- £100,000 rise in YHN rent arrears in first six week of bedroom tax introduction.
- Coordinated approach to internal and external partners' activity.
  - Following recommendations of LGA and CC group.
- Future response to increases in homelessness?

# No Second Night Out

- Central government initiative, launched in December 2012.
- No one 'new to the streets' should spend more than one night rough sleeping.
- Respondents sceptical about impact in Newcastle .
  - Nature of rough sleep population.
  - Quality of existing service offer.
- Homeless Transition funding – 'Housing First' scheme, run by the Cyrenians.
  - 37 supported to maintain tenancies beyond 6 months.

# Strengths of Newcastle's Approach

- Political commitment.
- Partnership working.
  - Active Inclusion Newcastle (AIN).
- Partnership working with YHN.
  - Sustaining Tenancy Guidance.
  - Young People's Service.
- Tyne & Wear Choice-Based Lettings System.
- Cherry Tree View.
- Response to welfare reform.

# Private Rented Sector

- Reduction in staff of the PRS and re-location.
- Reduction in number of properties advertised.
- Lack of floating support for PRS.
- Speed at which properties become available.
- Doubts over potential.
- Some successes, e.g. Housing First, links with Cherry Tree View.

# Single Homeless Men with Complex Needs

- Limited resources available for mental health services.
- Hostel evictions at 31%.
- Frequent moves between different forms of supported accommodation.
- Giving false addresses when leaving prison.



# Meeting Complex Needs

- Information available from The Gateway.
- Mental health social worker at Cherry Tree View.
- Traffic light system for independence.
- Holding beds for people coming out of custody.
- Common case management group.
- Discussion of people at risk of eviction from supported accommodation.

# The Future

- Protecting preventative approach and partnership working.
- Linking commissioning to needs, not services.
- Tension between collaboration & competition.
- Strategic allocation of floating support.
- Maximising impact of 'free' services (e.g. faith groups).

# The Homelessness Monitor

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- Independent analysis of the impact on homelessness of economic and policy developments
- Five year study: 2011-2015; all 4 UK countries
- England 2013 released on Friday 13<sup>th</sup>!

# Putting Newcastle in context

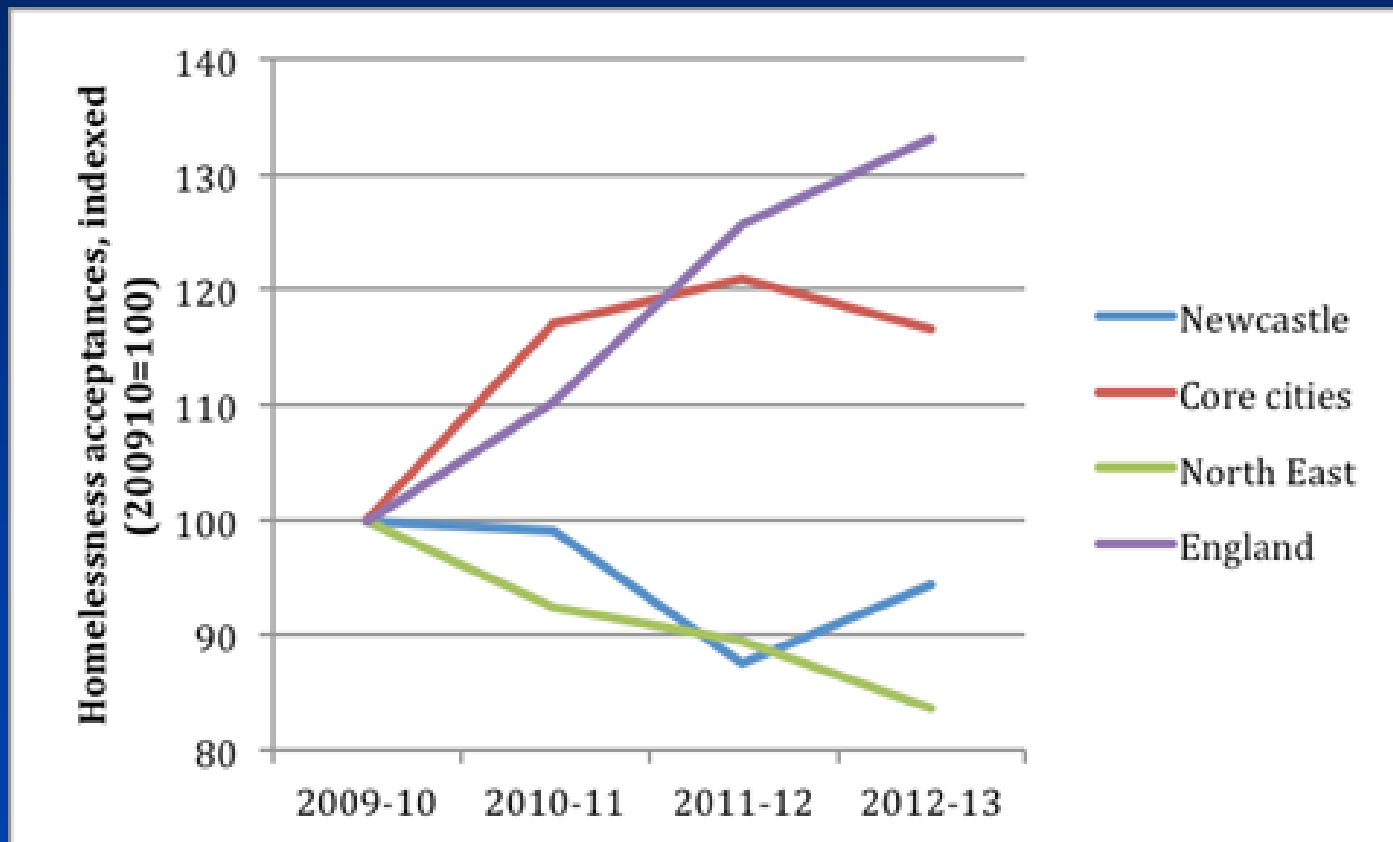
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- England + other 'core cities'
  - Homelessness acceptances
  - Temporary accommodation and B&B
  - Causes of homelessness
  - Prevention activity
- Trends over time and % are comparable (not absolute numbers as cities vary in scale)

# Acceptances – in context

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Birmingham	3,371	4,207	3,929	3,957
Bristol	285	214	299	324
Leeds	427	553	697	762
Liverpool	233	218	268	187
Manchester	482	643	580	533
<b>Newcastle</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>220</b>
Nottingham City	616	578	617	481
Sheffield	946	1,070	1,383	1,218
North East	2,007	1,857	1,797	1,679
England	40,020	44,159	50,290	53,325

# Acceptances 2009/10- 2012/13- indexed



# TA – comparison with other core cities

	31-Mar-10	31-Mar-11	31-Mar-12	31-Mar-13
Birmingham	709	726	691	708
Bristol	207	158	160	137
Leeds	59	115	132	48
Liverpool	71	46	31	19
Manchester	265	276	371	286
<b>Newcastle</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>40</b>
Nottingham City	76	89	87	24
Sheffield	277	191	168	106

# B&B – comparison with other core cities

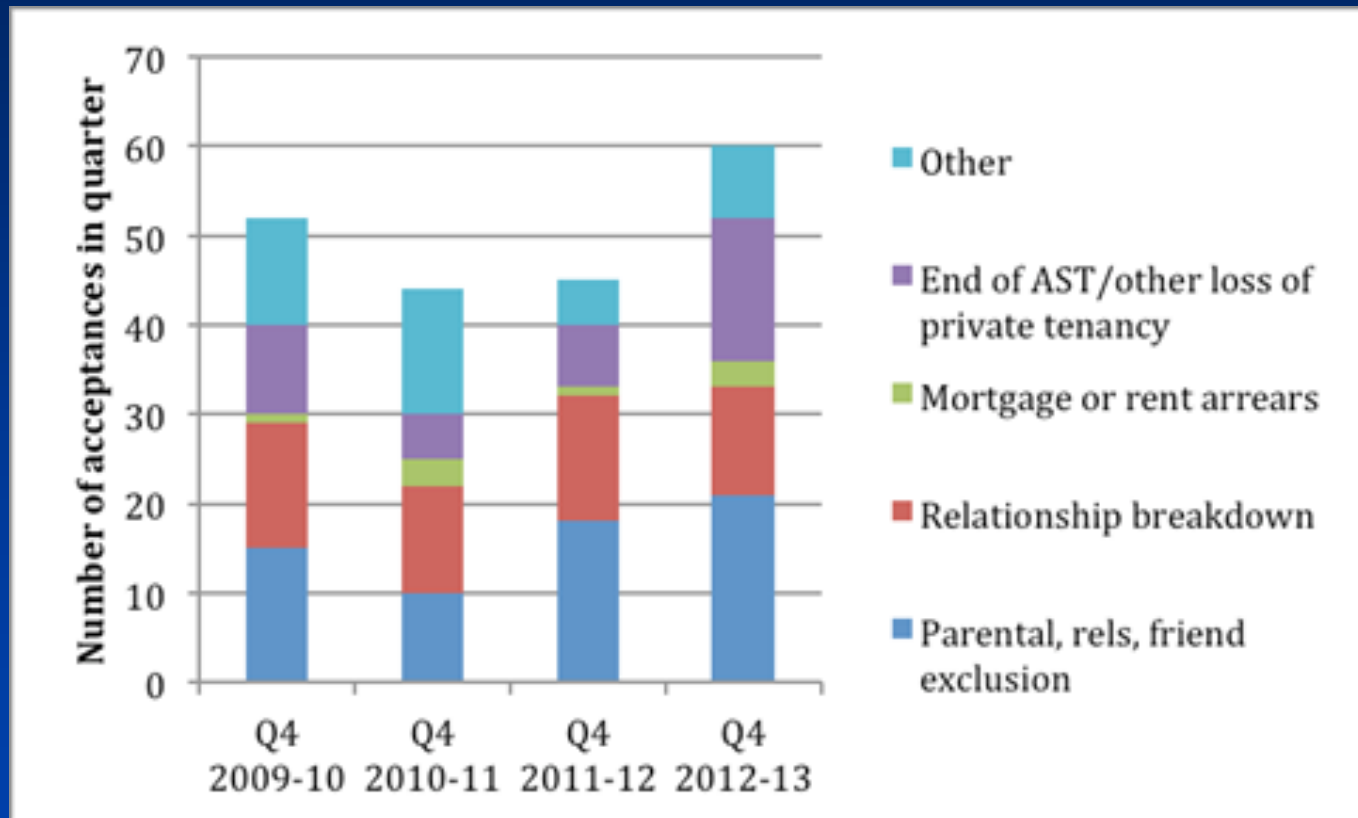
	31-Mar-10	31-Mar-11	31-Mar-12	31-Mar-13
Birmingham	136	70	57	39
Bristol	13	1	5	4
Leeds	0	0	11	0
Liverpool	0	0	0	0
Manchester	23	22	45	2
<b>Newcastle</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Nottingham City	0	0	0	0
Sheffield	70	10	1	2



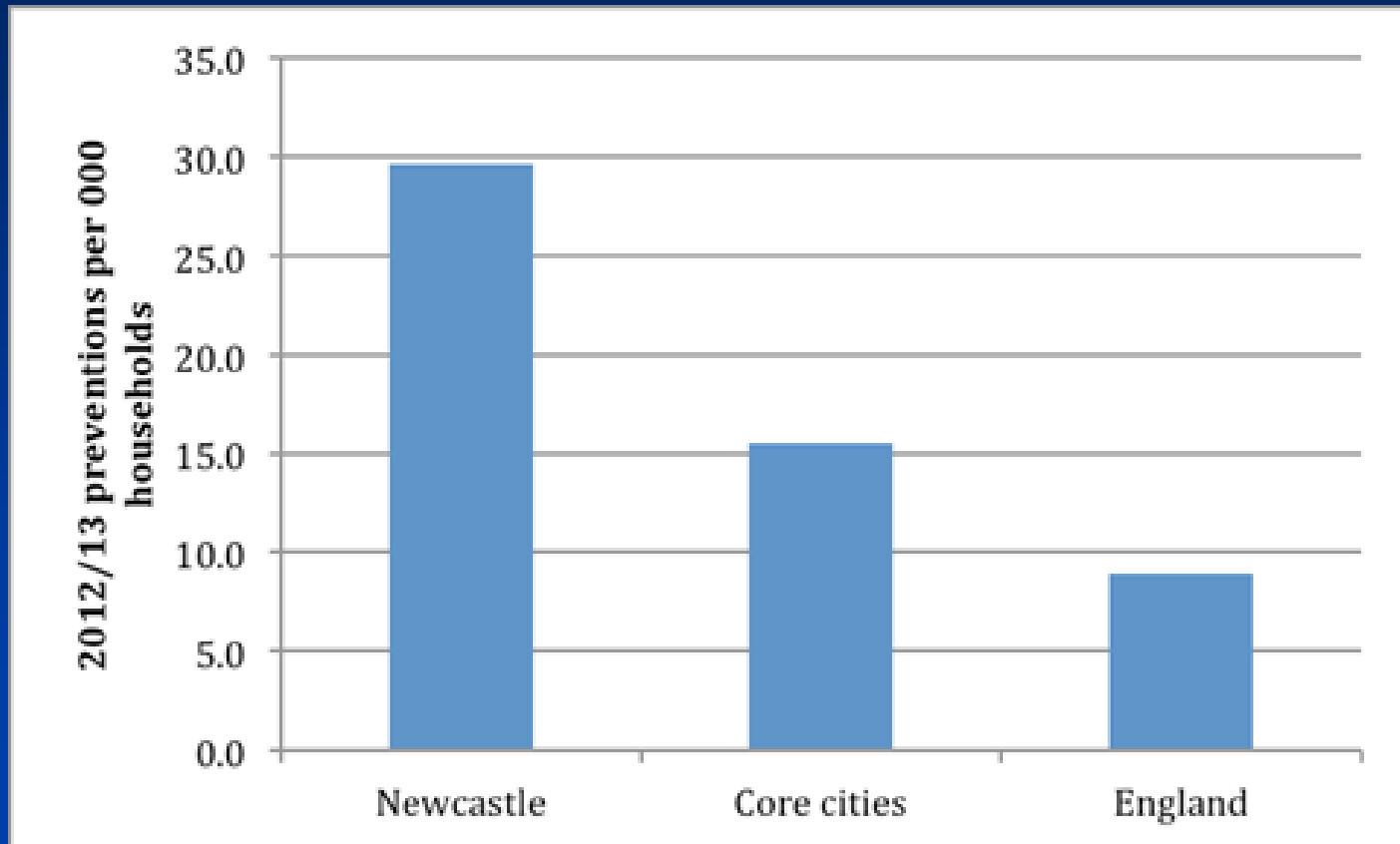
# Causes – comparisons with other core cities

	Parental exclusion	Other friends or rels	Relationship breakdown	Mortgage arrears	Rent arrears	Loss of AST	Other loss of rented	Other	Total
Birmingham	16	14	28	2	3	15	5	17	100
Bristol	20	13	12	5	0	30	1	18	100
Leeds	11	17	13	3	4	9	9	34	100
Liverpool	16	3	22	0	11	3	3	43	100
Manchester	7	12	51	5	1	2	8	15	100
<b>Newcastle</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100</b>
Nottingham	20	11	17	1	3	30	1	16	100
Sheffield	24	15	28	0	1	9	6	16	100
All core cities	17	14	27	2	2	14	6	19	100

# Causes – trends in Newcastle



# Homelessness prevention



## Conclusion

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A reasonable interpretation of these overall statistical results would be that *effective prevention practice in Newcastle is helping to achieve low levels of statutory homelessness and TA use*