

# Fairness, health and wellbeing in the North

#### Paul Johnstone

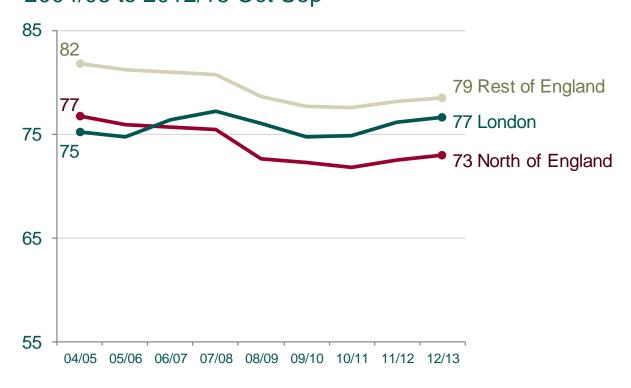
North of England Fairness conference



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# Percentage of men in employment aged 16 to 64 2004/05 to 2012/13 Oct-Sep

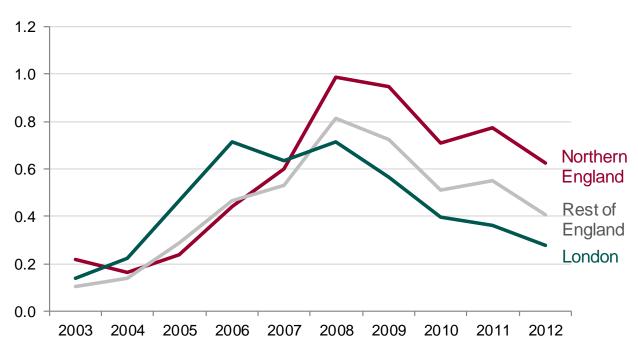


Source: NOMIS (North of England = North East, Cumbria and Lancashire, Yorkshire and the Humber, Greater Manchester, and Cheshire and Merseyside)



# Mortgage repossession

Mortgage repossession - Possessions per 1,000 people aged 16 and over



Source: Mortgage and landlord possession statistics quarterly - Ministry of Justice



## Is this the right 'balance'?

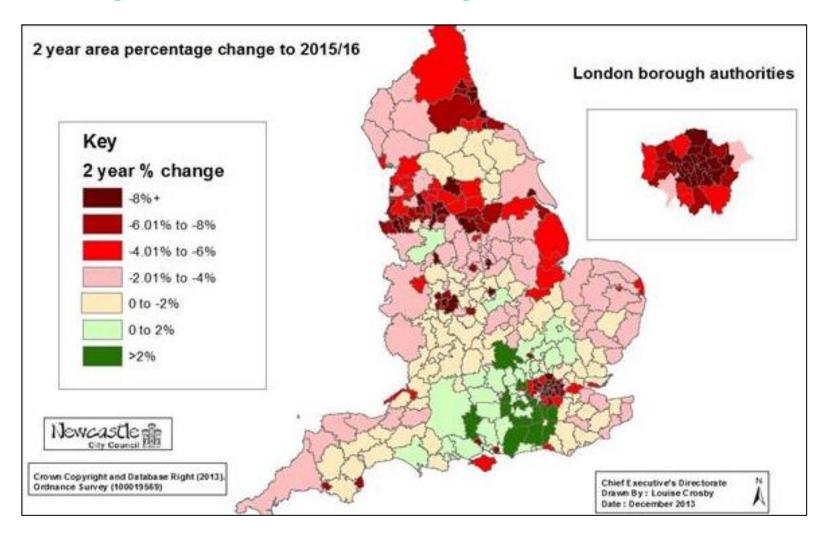
The Office for Budget Responsibility predicts 3.1m private sector jobs created between 2010-11 and 2018-19 more than balancing expected 1.1m reduction in public sector jobs over the same period.

Office for Budget Responsibility

"It is not the case that those regions with larger cuts to public employment are those with faster growth in private sector employment. London and Scotland stand out as those areas with the fastest private sector growth"

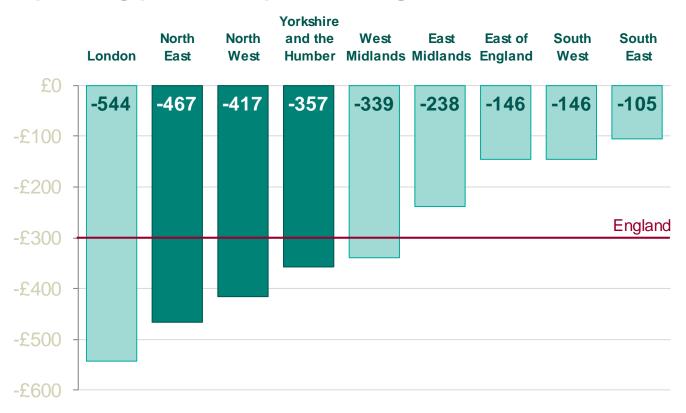
Institute for Fiscal Studies Feb 2014

#### Changes in council spending power 2010-2016

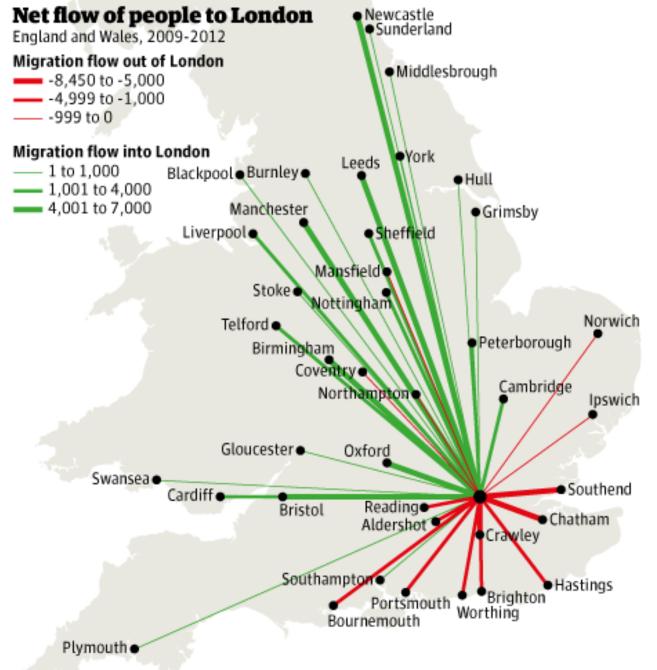




#### Spending power cut per dwelling 2010/11 to 2015/16



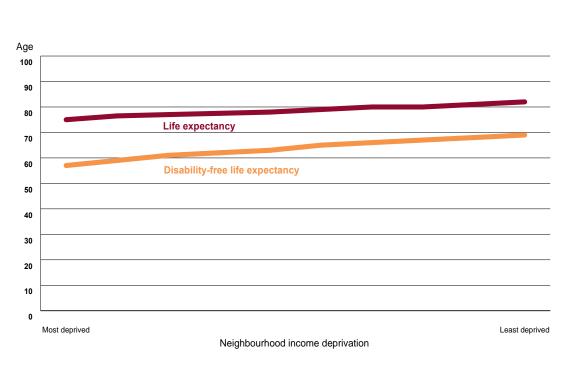
Source: Association for North East Councils: Response to DCLG's consultation on the provisional local government finance settlement 2014/15 Annex A



Graphic: The Guardian



#### Life expectancy and health life expectancy and premature mortality rates



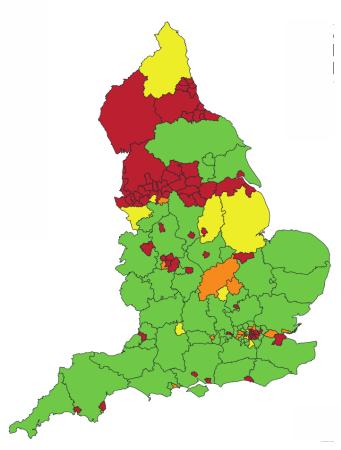






Image by Sue Ream under Creative Commons



'health inequalities are not inevitable and they can be significantly reduced.'

Sir Michael Marmot

Fair Society, Healthy Lives





## A challenge for us all

No more reports that only describe the problem!

Can we link and organise ourselves differently?

Build on our assets not deficits?

Hold each other to account?

Challenge others?



#### So what have we done?

Started a conversation ...

Health equity north steering group and project plan

Collaboratives

Inquiry into health inequalities to provide alternative policy thinking to help reduce health inequalities in the north



# The inquiry

#### Review panel

Professor Margaret Whitehead to chair; will meet between March and May to discuss evidence and use this to determine new options for future policy; local government, voluntary and community sector, academic and business perspectives from across the north

#### Evidence papers on

enhancing community control
early years and education
what does healthy economic development look like?
place based approaches to reducing health inequalities
effective welfare policy in a time of austerity



#### Where next?

A conversation to create a step change in the way policy works to address health inequality

Building collaboratives: there is no single place, sector or organisation which has sole control, accountability or responsibility for changing the face of the north/south health map



## My questions.....

Will the North- South divide be with us for the next economic cycle and for another generation?

How can we work with business, public sector (particularly local authorities), NHS, universities and VCS-at scale?

Would this health and social message add value to the economic voice already expressed by city regions and local economic partnerships?

Can we learn from the old Regional Development Agencies?

Are there other models of economic and social development, alternative local and national policies to rebalance the economy - can build on such as the asset approach?

Would a fairness 'action' commission for the north help?



### What you can do today

@PHE\_YorksHumber#northequity



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