Key Points:

- Boys in Barnsley who reported their general health as excellent (37.0%) is higher than the proportion of girls who did (25.3%) (see Figure 2).
- The proportion of boys who reported having a long-term disability or medical condition (15.7%) is higher than the proportion of girls who did (11.8%) (see Figure 5).
- The proportion of 15 year olds who are sedentary for 7 or more hours a day on weekend days is higher than on weekdays; this is consistent for all statistical neighbours and England overall (see Figures 7 and 9).
- Compared to statistical neighbours, Barnsley has the fifth lowest rate for 15 year olds who eat 5 portions or more of fruit and veg per day (see Figure 11). Barnsley’s rate of 44.5% is significantly lower than the rate for England (52.4%). The proportion of girls in Barnsley who eat 5 portions or more of fruit and veg per day (38.5%) is lower than the proportion of boys who do (50.3%) (see Figure 12).
- Boys in Barnsley scored higher than girls in relation to mental well-being (see Figure 14).
- Barnsley is ranked tenth out of statistical neighbours for high-very high life satisfaction (67.5%); this is higher than the England rate (65.5%) (see Figure 15). In Barnsley the rate of girls who score high on life satisfaction is lower than boys (39.3 compared to 46.1), as are scores for very high life satisfaction (20.0 compared to 29.9) (see Figure 16).
- Compared to statistical neighbours, Barnsley has the second highest rate for 15 year olds undertaking 3 or more risky behaviours (see Figure 19). Barnsley’s rate of 22.5% is significantly higher than the rate for England (15.9%). When comparing the proportion of girls and boys in Barnsley undertaking 3 or more risky behaviours, girls have a higher rate (26.7%) than boys (18.4%) (see Figure 20).
- Barnsley has the fourth highest rate of 15 year olds who are classified as current smokers and also those classed as regular smokers. Rates for both of these categories are significantly higher than England. Within Barnsley, a higher rate of girls have tried tobacco and E-cigarettes than boys, more girls also currently smoke tobacco (see Figures 21-26).
- Barnsley has the third lowest rate when compared to statistical neighbours for the percentage of 15 year olds who have ever tried cannabis (8.1%) when compared to statistical neighbours, which is significantly lower than England (10.7%) (see Figure 27).
- Barnsley is ranked tenth for the percentage of teenagers who have used cannabis in the last month (3.4%) which is significantly lower than England (4.6%) (see Figure 28). However, in Barnsley more girls have tried both cannabis (8.6%) and other drugs (2.6%) than boys (7.7% and 0.6% respectively) (see Figures 31 and 32).
- Barnsley has the highest rate amongst statistical neighbours of 15 year olds who have ever had an alcoholic drink (77.6%), and is significantly higher than the rate for England (62.4%) (see Figure 33). Over four fifths of girls in Barnsley (82.8%) have tried drinking alcohol, compared to 72.7% of boys (see Figure 34). Barnsley is ranked second for the rate of 15 year olds who drink alcohol at least once a week (11.3%) which is significantly higher than England (6.2%) (see Figure 35). Barnsley is ranked ninth for the rate of 15 year olds who have been drunk in the last four weeks (17.2%) which is significantly higher than the England rate (14.6%) (see Figure 36).

Purpose & Context:

- The purpose of this briefing is to present the findings from the first What About YOUth (WAY) survey, completed in 2014.
- This survey targets 15 year olds nationally and asks questions relating to general health, well-being and engagement in risky behaviours.
- The aim of the study is “to make it easier for doctors, nurses and local authorities to help young people” and was launched as part of the Government’s initiative to improve the health of young people (What About YOUth 2016).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contents</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Health, Diet and Physical Activity:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term disability or medical condition</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical activity</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit and vegetable consumption</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wellbeing and bullying:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEMWBS</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life satisfaction</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body image</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Risky Behaviour:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk taking behaviours</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smoking</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug use</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol use</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Key Points:

- Compared to statistical neighbours, the proportion of 15 year olds in Barnsley who reported their general health as excellent (31.0%) is the **fifth highest** (see Figure 1). Barnsley’s rate is marginally higher than the rate for England (29.5%), but the difference is **not significant**.
- The proportion of boys in Barnsley who reported their general health as excellent (37.0%) is **higher** than the proportion of girls who did (25.3%) (see Figure 2).
- The proportion of girls reporting that their general health is **poor** (2.2%) is higher than for boys (0.6%) (see Figure 3). The overall rate for Barnsley (boys and girls) is 1.4%. Amongst statistical neighbours, rates range from 0.5% to 1.9%; the rate for England is 1.2%.

*Figure 1. Percentage reporting general health as excellent for Barnsley and statistical neighbours, 2014*

*Figure 2. Percentage reporting general health as excellent, by gender in Barnsley, 2014*

*Figure 3. Percentage reporting general health as poor, by gender in Barnsley, 2014*
Long-Term Disability and Medical Conditions

Key Points:
- This section considers the percentage of 15 year olds who responded “Yes” to the question: "Do you have a long-term illness, disability or medical condition (like diabetes, arthritis, allergy or cerebral palsy?) that has been diagnosed by a doctor?".
- Barnsley’s rate of 13.7% is the sixth lowest out of the statistical neighbours group (see Figure 4). It is slightly lower than the England rate of 14.1%, but this is not significantly different.
- The proportion of boys in Barnsley who reported having a long-term disability or medical condition (15.7%) is higher than the proportion of girls who did (11.8%) (see Figure 5).

*Figure 4. Percentage with a long-term illness, disability or medical condition diagnosed by a doctor for Barnsley and statistical neighbours, 2014*

*Figure 5. Long-term illness, disability or medical condition diagnosed by a doctor, by gender in Barnsley, 2014*
Key Points:

- Compared to statistical neighbours, Barnsley has the second highest rate for 15 year olds who are physically active for at least one hour per day for seven days a week (see Figure 6). Barnsley’s rate of 15.8% is higher than the rate for England (13.9%), however this is not significantly different.
- The proportion of 15 year olds in Barnsley who are sedentary for 7 or more hours a day on weekdays (76.5%) is the fourth highest when compared to statistical neighbours (see Figure 7). It is also significantly higher than the rate for England (70.0%).
- When comparing the proportion of girls and boys in Barnsley who are sedentary for 7 or more hours a day on weekdays, girls have a marginally higher rate (76.8%) than boys (76.6%) (see Figure 8).
- The proportion of 15 year olds in Barnsley who are sedentary for 7 or more hours a day on weekend days (89.2%) is the fifth lowest when compared to statistical neighbours (see Figure 9). It is slightly higher than the rate for England (88.2%).
- When comparing the proportion of girls and boys in Barnsley who are sedentary for 7 or more hours a day on weekend days, girls have a marginally higher rate (89.2%) than boys (89.1%) (see Figure 10).
- The proportion of 15 year olds who are sedentary for 7 or more hours a day on weekend days is higher than on weekdays; this is consistent for all statistical neighbours and England overall (see Figures 7 and 9).

Figure 6. Percentage physically active for at least one hour per day seven days a week for Barnsley and statistical neighbours, 2014
Figure 7. Sedentary behaviour: percentage sedentary for 7 or more hours a day on **weekdays** for Barnsley and statistical neighbours, 2014

Source: Health & Social Care Information Centre 2016

Figure 8. Sedentary behaviour: percentage sedentary for 7 or more hours a day on **weekdays**, by gender in Barnsley, 2014

Source: Health & Social Care Information Centre 2016
Figure 9. Sedentary behaviour: percentage sedentary for 7 or more hours a day on **weekend days** for Barnsley and statistical neighbours, 2014

Figure 10. Sedentary behaviour: percentage sedentary for 7 or more hours a day on **weekend days**, by gender in Barnsley, 2014
**Key Points:**

- Compared to statistical neighbours, Barnsley has the **fifth lowest rate** for 15 year olds who eat 5 portions or more of fruit and veg per day (see Figure 11). Barnsley’s rate of 44.5% is **significantly lower** than the rate for England (52.4%).
- The proportion of girls in Barnsley who eat 5 portions or more of fruit and veg per day (38.5%) is **lower** than the proportion of boys who do (50.3%) (see Figure 12).
- On average, 15 year olds in Barnsley eat 4.7 portions of fruit and veg per day. Amongst statistical neighbours, rates range from 4.3 to 5.3 portions per day; the rate for England is 5.2 portions per day.

*Figure 11. Percentage who eat 5 portions or more of fruit and veg per day for Barnsley and statistical neighbours, 2014*

*Figure 12. Percentage who eat 5 portions or more of fruit and veg per day, by gender in Barnsley, 2014*
Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-Being Scale (WEMWBS)

Key Points:
- Barnsley is 8th highest for mean score on the WEMBS when compared to statistical neighbours (see Figure 13). Scores range from 14-70, with a higher score indicating a more positive result. Barnsley’s mean score (47.8) is higher than England (47.6), however this is not significantly different.
- Boys in Barnsley scored higher than girls in relation to mental well-being (see Figure 14).

Figure 13. Mean score on the WEMWBS for Barnsley and statistical neighbours, 2014

Figure 14. Mean score on the WEMWBS by gender in Barnsley, 2014

Produced by the Research and Business Intelligence Team: Research&BusinessIntelligenceTeam@barnsley.gov.uk
Life Satisfaction

Key Points:
- Barnsley is ranked tenth out of statistical neighbours for high-very high life satisfaction (67.5%); this is higher than the England rate (65.5%) (see Figure 15).
- Barnsley is ranked sixth out of statistical neighbours for low-medium life satisfaction (32.5) which is lower than the rate for England (34.5) (see Figure 15).
- In Barnsley the rate of girls who score high on life satisfaction is lower than boys (39.3 compared to 46.1), as are scores for very high life satisfaction (20.0 compared to 29.9) (see Figure 16).

Figure 15. Mean score on the WEMWBS for Barnsley and statistical neighbours, 2014*

![Figure 15](image)

Source: Health & Social Care Information Centre 2016

Figure 16. Mean score on the WEMWBS by gender in Barnsley, 2014

![Figure 16](image)

*Note: Scores on the survey have been aggregated to reflect low and medium scores and high and very high scores for statistical neighbours to aid in interpretation of the chart. Individual figures are available on request.

Produced by the Research and Business Intelligence Team: Research&BusinessIntelligenceTeam@barnsley.gov.uk
Key Points:

- Barnsley’s rate of 56.1% for 15 year olds who think they are the right size is the highest in the comparator group, and is significantly higher than the rate for England (52.4%) (see Figure 17).
- However, when comparing boys and girls in Barnsley, a lower proportion of girls (53.0%) than boys (59.5%) think they are the right size (see Figure 18).
- Almost two fifths (39.2%) of girls in Barnsley think they are too fat, compared to 25.1% of boys. Conversely, 15.4% of boys think they are too thin, compared to only 7.8% of girls.

Figure 17. Percentage who think they are the right size for Barnsley and statistical neighbours, 2014

Figure 18. Percentage who think they are the right size, by gender in Barnsley, 2014
**Risk Taking Behaviours**

**Key Points:**

- 3 or more “risky” behaviours is defined as: the percentage of 15 year olds who reported having undertaken at least 3 of the following unhealthy/illegal behaviours: currently smoke, usually have an alcoholic drink once a month or more frequently, have used cannabis in the last month, have used drugs other than cannabis in the last month, consumed fewer than five portions of fruit and veg yesterday and not active for 60 minutes or more on seven days in the last week.

- Compared to statistical neighbours, Barnsley has the second highest rate for 15 year olds undertaking 3 or more risky behaviours (see Figure 19). Barnsley’s rate of 22.5% is significantly higher than the rate for England (15.9%).

- When comparing the proportion of girls and boys in Barnsley undertaking 3 or more risky behaviours, girls have a higher rate (26.7%) than boys (18.4%) (see Figure 20).

*Figure 19. Percentage with 3 or more risky behaviours for Barnsley and statistical neighbours, 2014*

*Figure 20. Percentage with 3 or more risky behaviours, by gender in Barnsley, 2014*
Key Points:

- Barnsley has the **fourth highest** rate of 15 year olds who currently smoke (10.7%) when compared to statistical neighbours, this figure is **significantly higher** than England (8.2%) (see Figure 21).
- Barnsley also has the **fourth highest** rate of regular smokers (7.5%) which is also **significantly higher** than England (5.5%) (see Figure 22).
- Barnsley has the **highest percentage** of occasional smokers when compared to statistical neighbours (3.2%) although this is **not significantly** higher England (2.7%) (see Figure 23).
- More girls than boys have ever **smoked** (31% compared to 22.1%) and currently smoke (12.1% compared to 9.4%) (see Figure 24).
- Barnsley has the **fifth highest** rate of 15 year olds who have ever smoked E-cigarettes (27.3%), this is **significantly higher than** England (18.4%) (see Figure 25).
- More girls than boys in Barnsley have ever **tried** E-cigarettes (29.5% compared to 25.1%) (see Figure 26).

*Figure 21. Percentage of 15 year olds in Barnsley and statistical neighbours who currently smoke, 2014*
Figure 22. Percentage of 15 year olds in Barnsley and statistical neighbours who smoke regularly, 2014

Figure 23. Percentage of 15 year olds in Barnsley and statistical neighbours who smoke occasionally, 2014
Figure 24. Percentage of 15 year boys and girls in Barnsley who are current smokers, have ever smoked and never smoked, 2014

Source: Health & Social Care Information Centre 2016
Figure 25. Percentage of 15 year olds in Barnsley and statistical neighbours who have tried an E-cigarette, 2014

Figure 26. Percentage of 15 year old boys and girls in Barnsley who currently use, have tried or never tried an E-cigarette, 2014
Key Points:
- Barnsley has the third lowest rate when compared to statistical neighbours for the percentage of 15 year olds who have ever tried cannabis (8.1%) when compared to statistical neighbours, which is significantly lower than England (10.7%) (see Figure 27).
- Barnsley is ranked tenth for the percentage of teenagers who have used cannabis in the last month (3.4%) which is significantly lower than England (4.6%) (see Figure 28).
- Barnsley is ranked eleventh for the rate of 15 year olds who have ever tried any other drugs, excluding cannabis (1.7%), compared to 2.5% for England (see Figure 29).
- In Barnsley more girls have tried both cannabis (8.6%) and other drugs (2.6%) than boys (7.7% and 0.6% respectively) (see Figures 31 and 32).

Figure 27. The percentage of 15 year olds who have ever tried cannabis in Barnsley and statistical neighbours compared to England, 2014

Figure 28. The percentage of 15 year olds who have used cannabis in the last month in Barnsley and statistical neighbours compared to England, 2014
Drug Use

Figure 29. The percentage of 15 year olds who have ever tried other drugs in Barnsley and statistical neighbours compared to England, 2014

Source: Health & Social Care Information Centre 2016
Drug Use

Figure 31. The percentage of 15 year old boys and girls who have ever tried cannabis in Barnsley, 2014

![Bar chart showing the percentage of 15 year old boys and girls who have ever tried cannabis in Barnsley, 2014. Boys: 7.7%, Girls: 8.6%. Source: Health & Social Care Information Centre 2016.]

Figure 32. The percentage of 15 year old boys and girls who have tried other drugs in Barnsley, 2014

![Bar chart showing the percentage of 15 year old boys and girls who have tried other drugs in Barnsley, 2014. Boys: 0.6%, Girls: 2.6%. Source: Health & Social Care Information Centre 2016.]

Produced by the Research and Business Intelligence Team: Research&BusinessIntelligenceTeam@barnsley.gov.uk
Key Points:
- Barnsley has the highest rate amongst statistical neighbours of 15 year olds who have ever had an alcoholic drink (77.6%), and is significantly higher than the rate for England (62.4%) (see Figure 33).
- Over four fifths of girls in Barnsley (82.8%) have tried drinking alcohol, compared to 72.7% of boys (see Figure 34).
- Barnsley is ranked second for the rate of 15 year olds who drink alcohol at least once a week (11.3%) which is significantly higher than England (6.2%) (see Figure 35).
- Barnsley is ranked ninth for the rate of 15 year olds who have been drunk in the last four weeks (17.2%) which is significantly higher than the England rate (14.6%) (see Figure 36).

Figure 33. Percentage who have ever had an alcoholic drink for Barnsley and statistical neighbours, 2014

Figure 34. Percentage who have ever had an alcoholic drink, by gender in Barnsley, 2014
**Alcohol Use**

Figure 35. Percentage of regular drinkers in Barnsley and statistical neighbours, 2014

Figure 36. Percentage of regular drinkers who have been drunk in the last four weeks in Barnsley and statistical neighbours, 2014
Appendix

Methodology

The What About YOUth (WAY) survey is a newly established survey, conducted by Ipsos MORI on behalf of the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC), to collect robust local authority level data on a range of health behaviours amongst 15 year olds. The sample size is significant and the majority of local authorities achieved a +/- 3 percentage point margin of error at the 95% confidence interval (CI). In other words, users could be 95 per cent confident that the true value would lie within 3 percentage points of the survey estimate.

Some of the questions used in the survey were sourced from established surveys where they had already been proven to work well with young people. Other additional questions were created specifically for the study to research new areas of interest.

Young people completed a paper questionnaire or completed it online. When asking questions in a survey about smoking, drinking and drugs there is potential for the methodology to have an impact on how people answer. In particular there has been some evidence which shows that young people appear less willing to admit to smoking or taking drugs when answering questions at home, particularly in comparison with school-based surveys. Similarly some of the other questions in this survey are more difficult for young people to answer accurately when completing the questionnaire alone, such as the number or portions of fruit and vegetables consumed.

Response rate for Barnsley

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total population</th>
<th>Selected sample</th>
<th>Number of opt outs</th>
<th>Eligible sample</th>
<th>Total response</th>
<th>Unadjusted Response Rate</th>
<th>Adjusted Response Rate</th>
<th>CI (± percentage points around a 50% estimate)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,548</td>
<td>2,080</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>2,061</td>
<td>809</td>
<td>38.9</td>
<td>39.3</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Definition of Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale

The Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale (WEMWBS) is a scale of 14 positively worded items, with five response categories, for assessing a population’s mental wellbeing (NHS Scotland, 2015).

Confidence Intervals

Confidence intervals are a statistical method of accounting for variability in data. Variability means that data collected under the same circumstances can yield different results. The confidence interval is therefore used to represent with a confidence of 95% the range in which the true value will lie. Where confidence intervals do not overlap, we say that the difference is statistically significant. Statistically significant differences will indicate that there is a real underlying difference between the proportions.

Statistical Neighbours

Statistical neighbours are local authorities deemed to have similar characteristics. The statistical neighbours used in this report are the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) neighbours recommended by Public Health England.

Produced April 2016 by Helen Hickson and Megan Kenny. Reviewed by: Caroline Berry

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