

# North Yorkshire County Council

## Scarborough and Whitby Area Constituency Committee

15<sup>th</sup> January 2020

### Life Expectancy in Scarborough and Whitby

#### Report of the Corporate Director – Health and Adult Services

#### 1.0 Purpose of report

- 1.1 This report has been prepared in response to a request for detailed information regarding life expectancy from Scarborough and Whitby Area Constituency Committee. It presents routine sources of life expectancy and healthy life expectancy at various levels of geography.

#### 2.0 Executive Summary

- Within the ACC, life expectancy at birth is significantly lower than England in five wards for males and three wards for females. These are located in Eastfield and Scarborough town.
- For Scarborough borough, male life expectancy at birth is significantly lower than England whereas female life expectancy at birth is not significantly different from England.
- Scarborough borough has seen small improvements in life expectancy this century. However, both North Yorkshire and England have seen larger increases in already higher life expectancy, widening the gaps.
- There are no statistically significant differences in life expectancy at age 65.
- Healthy life expectancy is lowest in wards with lower life expectancy. The differences in healthy life expectancy between wards are greater than the differences in life expectancy.

#### 3.0 Issues

- 3.1 Life expectancy is an important summary measure of the overall health of an area. It shows the average number of years a person can expect to live, based on present day death rates at specific ages. It reflects mortality among residents of an area for a given time period, rather than what newborn infants might experience throughout their life because mortality rates are likely to change and those born in an area may live elsewhere for part of their lives.
- 3.2 Healthy life expectancy is a similar concept which takes into account morbidity (ill health) as well as mortality. It too is an important summary measure, estimating how long, on average, a person can live in good health rather than having a disability, poor health or dying prematurely. As with life expectancy, it is a measure of current population health rather than what will be experienced throughout life among those born in the area.
- 3.3 Scarborough and Whitby Area Constituency Committee comprises 23 of the 25 electoral wards of Scarborough borough. The remaining two wards, Filey and Hertford at the southern

end of Scarborough borough are part of Thirsk and Malton ACC. By population, Scarborough and Whitby ACC has 89.2% of the population in Scarborough borough.

- 3.4 Life expectancy is routinely calculated for lower-tier local authorities and higher administrative areas on an annual basis, pooling together three years of mortality data to calculate values. Life expectancy for parliamentary constituencies is not calculated by the Office for National Statistics ([UK Statistics Authority, 2019](#)).
- 3.5 Life expectancy and healthy life expectancy for wards and other small geographical areas is calculated once every ten years using five years of pooled mortality data centred around UK census years. The latest healthy life expectancy data for wards cover the period 2009-2013.
- 3.6 The Office for National Statistics (ONS) additionally calculates life expectancy (but not healthy life expectancy) for wards covering five years of mortality on an annual basis. The latest data published are for 2013-17. Due to ONS disclosure control rules, data are suppressed for some wards.
- 3.7 The [2019 Director of Public Health Annual Report for North Yorkshire](#) (p38) highlights the low life expectancy seen in the county's most deprived neighbourhoods, the majority of which are located in Scarborough and Whitby. The report recommends seven actions to tackle poverty which, in turn, will likely lead to improvements in life expectancy.
- 3.8 Variation within Scarborough & Whitby ACC

The following table show life expectancy at birth for wards within Scarborough & Whitby ACC. The wards are ranked by male life expectancy, except for Danby, which is included within the female life expectancy distribution. Male life expectancy varies by 10.3 years and for females by 9.4 years between wards. There are five wards where male life expectancy is significantly lower than England and three for females. Two wards, Ramshill and Falsgrave Park, have significantly lower life expectancy for both males and females. It is apparent that wards with significantly lower life expectancy are found in Scarborough town and Eastfield. There are two wards where male life expectancy is significantly higher than England and five for females.

Life expectancy at birth by sex, wards in Scarborough & Whitby ACC, 2013-17		
Ward	Male	Female
Castle	73.3	80.6
Eastfield	74.2	81.2
Ramshill	74.4	78.9
Fylingdales	75.0	84.0
Falsgrave Park	76.0	79.3
North Bay	76.9	84.2
Lindhead	77.3	86.6
Whitby West Cliff	77.4	80.8
Stepney	77.4	82.1
Woodlands	77.8	81.9
Streonshalh	77.9	80.5
Weaponness	78.6	80.6
Central	79.4	87.1
Northstead	79.6	82.3
Cayton	79.6	86.4
Newby	80.4	83.6

Better Similar Worse

Life expectancy at birth by sex, wards in Scarborough & Whitby ACC, 2013-17		
Scalby, Hackness and Staintondale	80.7	85.2
Mayfield	80.9	82.0
Danby	* No data	85.7
Seamer	81.7	88.3
Mulgrave	81.8	88.2
Esk Valley	83.5	85.6
Derwent Valley	83.6	88.1
<b>Scarborough Borough</b>	<b>78.6</b>	<b>82.9</b>
<b>England</b>	<b>79.5</b>	<b>83.1</b>

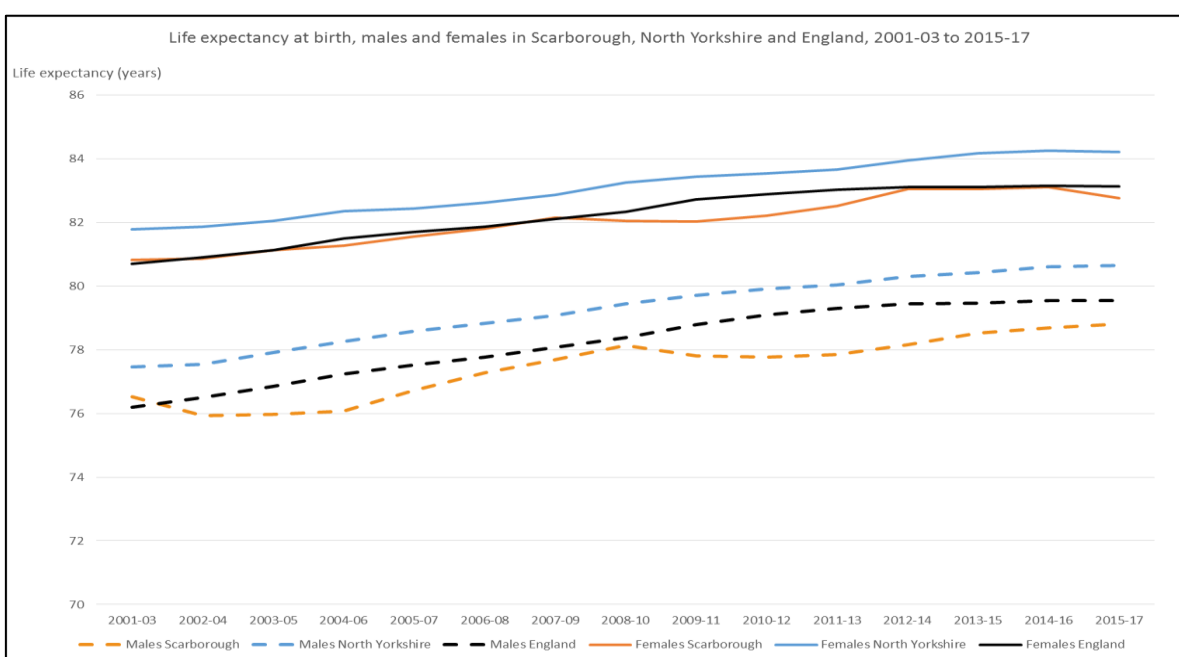
\* Value cannot be calculated as number of cases is too small Compared with England:  
Source: Public Health England, Local Health



### 3.9 Comparing Scarborough & Whitby with elsewhere

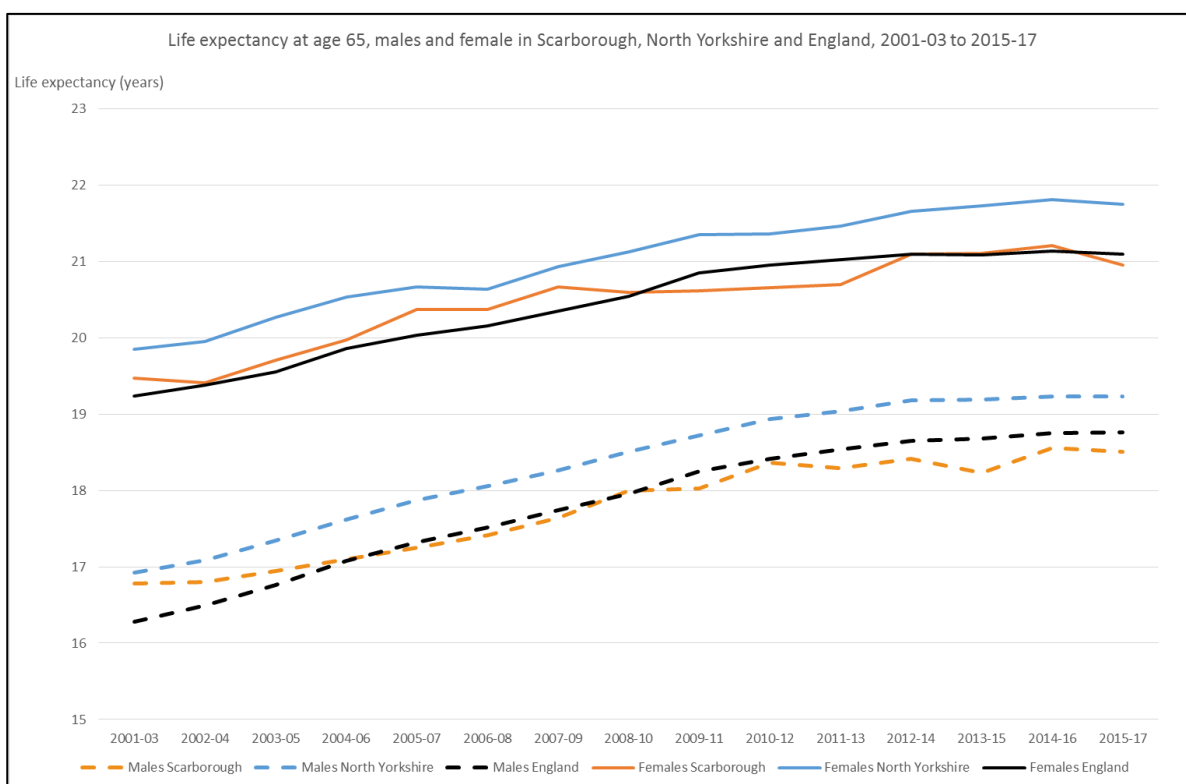
As previously noted, life expectancy data is not available for the ACC. This section uses Scarborough borough as a proxy for the ACC, noting that two additional wards are included in the borough total compared with the ACC.

- 3.10 The following chart shows life expectancy for Scarborough districts since 2001-03. It shows, over a 15-year period, male life expectancy in Scarborough increased by 2.3 years, compared with increases of 3.2y for North Yorkshire and 3.4y for England. Scarborough males have only seen about 68% of the gain observed nationally.
- 3.11 For females, life expectancy in Scarborough increased by 1.9 years, compared with 2.4 years in both North Yorkshire and England. Females in Scarborough have seen about 80% of the increase seen nationally.
- 3.12 Female life expectancy is consistently higher than male life expectancy. In 2001-03, female life expectancy in Scarborough was 4.3 years higher than for males. In 2015-17, the gap had reduced to 4.0 years. For North Yorkshire, the gap reduced from 4.3y to 3.6y and in England it reduced from 4.5y to 3.6. Scarborough borough has seen a smaller reduction in the gap in life expectancy between males and females than seen in North Yorkshire as a whole and nationally.



Source: ONS

- 3.13 This suggests that Scarborough has not benefited to the same extent from gains in life expectancy seen nationally. The deficit is higher for males than females. The gap between males and females in Scarborough has not narrowed to the same extent as seen in the county as a whole or England.
- 3.14 In a similar manner, the chart below looks at life expectancy at age 65 since 2001-03. In 2001-03, for both males and females, life expectancy at 65 in Scarborough was higher than England but in 2015-17 it is lower than England. Despite this, life expectancy at 65 has increase for both males and females in Scarborough by 1.7 years and 1.5 years respectively over this period. However, this compares with increases of 2.3y for males and 1.9y for females in North Yorkshire and 2.5y for males and 1.9y for females in England.
- 3.15 In 2001-03, the gap between males and females in Scarborough was 2.7 years and this has narrowed to 2.4 years by 2015-17. For North Yorkshire, the gap narrowed from 2.9y to 2.5y and in England it went from 2.9y to 2.3y, both broadly in line with reductions seen in Scarborough.



Source: ONS

- 3.16 The 2015-17 data show, for males, life expectancy at 65 in Scarborough (18.5y) is not significantly different from England (18.8y). Likewise for females, Scarborough (21.0y) is similar to England (21.1y).
- 3.17 The smaller increases in life expectancy at 65 seen in Scarborough compared with North Yorkshire and England again suggests that local people have not benefitted to the same extent as elsewhere from gains in health and wellbeing. Changes in the gap between males and females are broadly in line with averages elsewhere.
- 3.18 Comparing Scarborough & Whitby with Statistical Neighbours  
Comparing with areas which have a similar population structure and level of disadvantage, known as statistical neighbours, allows for comparison where these influences on life

expectancy at birth are less a factor. The charts below show that Scarborough borough is amongst the lowest in this group of 16 statistical neighbours for male life expectancy and just below the middle for female life expectancy at birth.

### Male life expectancy at birth, Scarborough and statistical neighbours, 2015-17

Area	Recent Trend	Neighbour Rank	Count	Value	95% Lower CI	95% Upper CI
England	--	-	-	79.6	79.5	79.6
Neighbours average	--	-	-	-	-	-
Teignbridge	--	12	-	80.6	80.0	81.1
Sedgemoor	--	15	-	80.4	79.8	81.0
King's Lynn and West Norfolk	--	9	-	80.1	79.6	80.7
Eastbourne	--	11	-	79.9	79.2	80.6
Arun	--	14	-	79.8	79.3	80.3
North Devon	--	2	-	79.6	78.9	80.2
Wyre Forest	--	3	-	79.4	78.7	80.1
Waveney	--	1	-	79.4	78.7	80.0
Folkestone & Hythe	--	7	-	79.2	78.6	79.9
Dover	--	10	-	79.2	78.6	79.9
Allerdale	--	8	-	79.0	78.3	79.7
Wyre	--	5	-	78.9	78.2	79.5
<b>Scarborough</b>	--	-	-	<b>78.8</b>	<b>78.2</b>	<b>79.5</b>
Fylde	--	13	-	78.7	77.9	79.6
Great Yarmouth	--	6	-	78.6	77.9	79.3
Tendring	--	4	-	77.8	77.2	78.4

Source: PHOF, PHE

### Female life expectancy at birth, Scarborough and statistical neighbours, 2015-17

Area	Recent Trend	Neighbour Rank	Count	Value	95% Lower CI	95% Upper CI
England	--	-	-	83.1	83.1	83.2
Neighbours average	--	-	-	-	-	-
Teignbridge	--	12	-	84.7	84.3	85.2
Sedgemoor	--	15	-	84.1	83.5	84.7
Arun	--	14	-	83.5	83.0	84.0
Eastbourne	--	11	-	83.3	82.7	84.0
Wyre Forest	--	3	-	83.1	82.5	83.7
King's Lynn and West Norfolk	--	9	-	83.1	82.5	83.6
North Devon	--	2	-	83.0	82.4	83.7
Folkestone & Hythe	--	7	-	82.9	82.3	83.5
<b>Scarborough</b>	--	-	-	<b>82.8</b>	<b>82.2</b>	<b>83.7</b>
Waveney	--	1	-	82.8	82.2	83.4
Great Yarmouth	--	6	-	82.7	82.1	83.4
Fylde	--	13	-	82.6	81.9	83.4
Wyre	--	5	-	82.4	81.8	83.1
Dover	--	10	-	82.2	81.6	82.9
Allerdale	--	8	-	82.0	81.3	82.7
Tendring	--	4	-	81.5	80.9	82.1

Source: PHOF, PHE

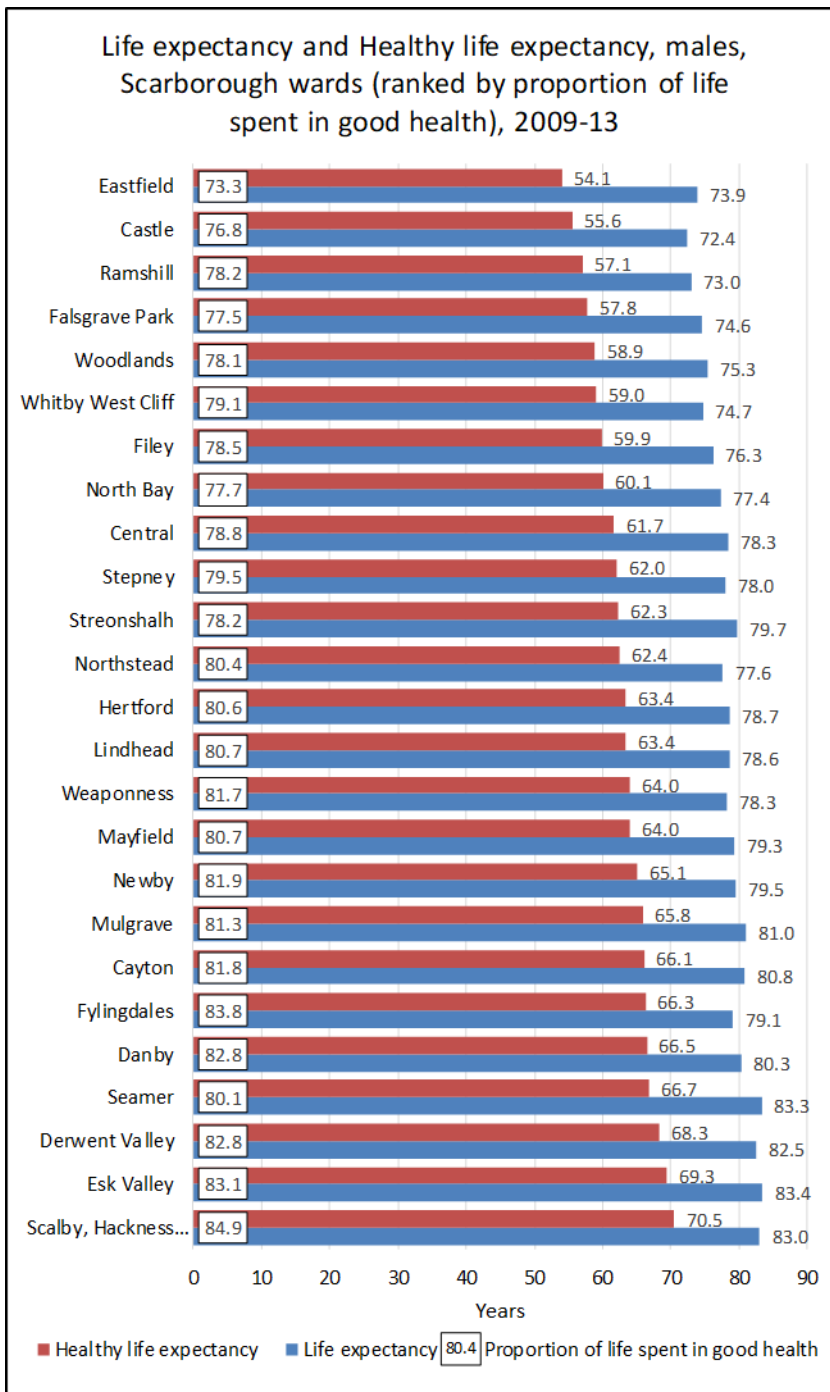
#### Key

- Significantly lower than England
- Not significantly different from England
- Significantly higher than England

#### 3.19 Healthy Life Expectancy

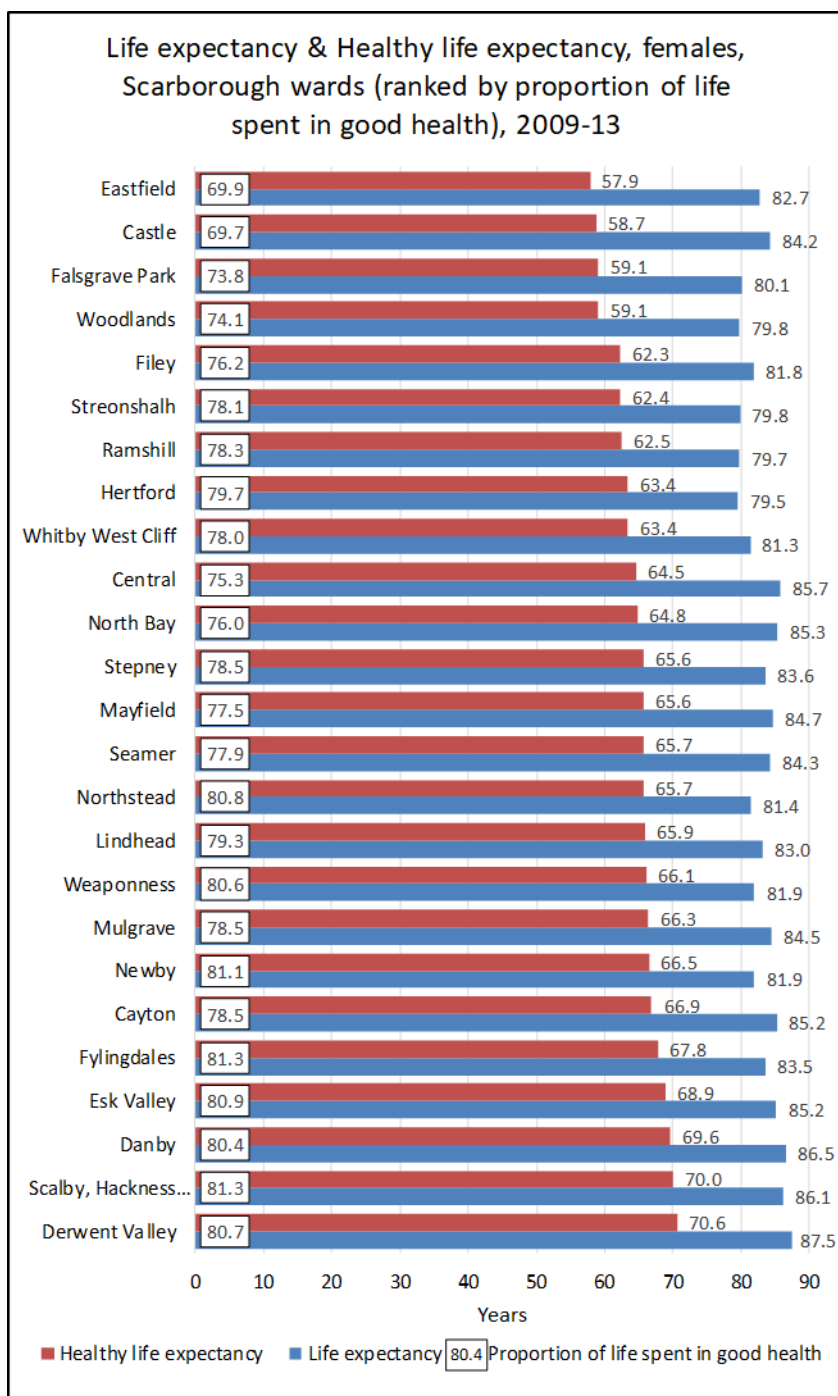
The following charts show life expectancy and health life expectancy for the 23 wards in Scarborough and Whitby ACC for 2009-13, for males and females. From this we can estimate the proportion of life spent in good health.

- 3.20 Males in Eastfield ward spend only 73.3% of their shorter lives in good health, compared with 84.9% in Scalby, Hackness & Staintondale ward. Healthy life expectancy in Scalby, Hackness & Staintondale is 70.5 years, just 1.9 years less than overall life expectancy at birth in Castle ward.



Source: ONS

- 3.21 Females in Eastfield ward spend only 69.9% of their lives in good health, a lower proportion than females who spend over 80% of their lives in good health in eight wards within the ACC.
- 3.22 Healthy life expectancy in Derwent Valley ward is 70.6 years, 9.1 years lower than the ward with lowest female life expectancy (Ramshill). This gap is considerably larger than the equivalent for males.



Source: ONS

#### 4.0 Financial & Legal Implications

4.1 There are no financial or legal implications associated with this report as it is for information only.

#### 5.0 Recommendation(s)

5.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

- i) Notes the differences in life expectancy within the area and considers possible approaches to tackling health inequality as measured by life expectancy.

- ii) Consider the Director of Public Health Annual Report 2019 which contains seven recommendations for tackling poverty, including in the most deprived areas which tend to have the lowest life expectancy.

*Richard Webb*  
Corporate Director – *Health and Adult Services*

County Hall  
Northallerton  
*6<sup>th</sup> January 2020*

Author of report – Leon Green, Senior Public Health Intelligence Specialist  
Presenter of Report – Lincoln Sargeant, Director of Public Health

Background Documents

Life in times of change: health and hardship in North Yorkshire, Annual Report of the Director of Public Health for North Yorkshire 2019. <https://nypartnerships.org.uk/dphar>