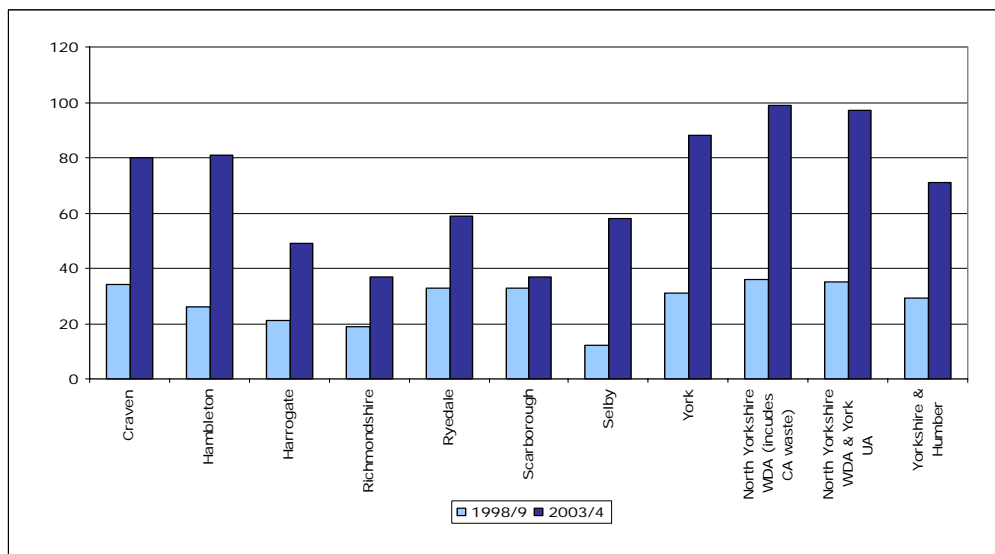


Source: DEFRA, Municipal Waste Survey 2003/04

Municipal waste includes household waste and other waste collected by local authorities. DEFRA collects data from local authorities on household waste in the Municipal Waste Survey and results are presented in the Figure 5.3 below. Since 1998/99 household waste per person has increased by 8%. It is important to note the sub-regional figure is an average of North Yorkshire Waste Disposal Authority (WDA) and York UA and includes all waste. The districts figures exclude Civic Authority (CA) waste, which is run by the WDA.

Household Waste Recycled or Composted 1998/99 and 2003/04



Source: DEFRA, Municipal Waste Survey 2003/04

Over the same period recycling and composted waste has increased by 177%, which shows substantial increases in the levels of recycling across the sub-region. At a district level Scarborough has the lowest levels of recycling or composting.

The local authorities across the sub-region have been given challenging statutory targets for household waste by DEFRA, including increasing the percentage of household waste which is recycled or composted.

Recycling levels across the sub-region vary, with Hambleton and Harrogate having the highest levels of waste which is recycled at 15.3% and 15.1% respectively. Scarborough and Richmondshire have comparatively low levels at 6.6% and 10.4%.

The levels of composting also vary dramatically across the sub-region. Hambleton has the highest composting rate at 19.2%, whilst Harrogate has the lowest at 0.6%.

York & North Yorkshire

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For the full version of Progress in York and North Yorkshire 2006 please visit:

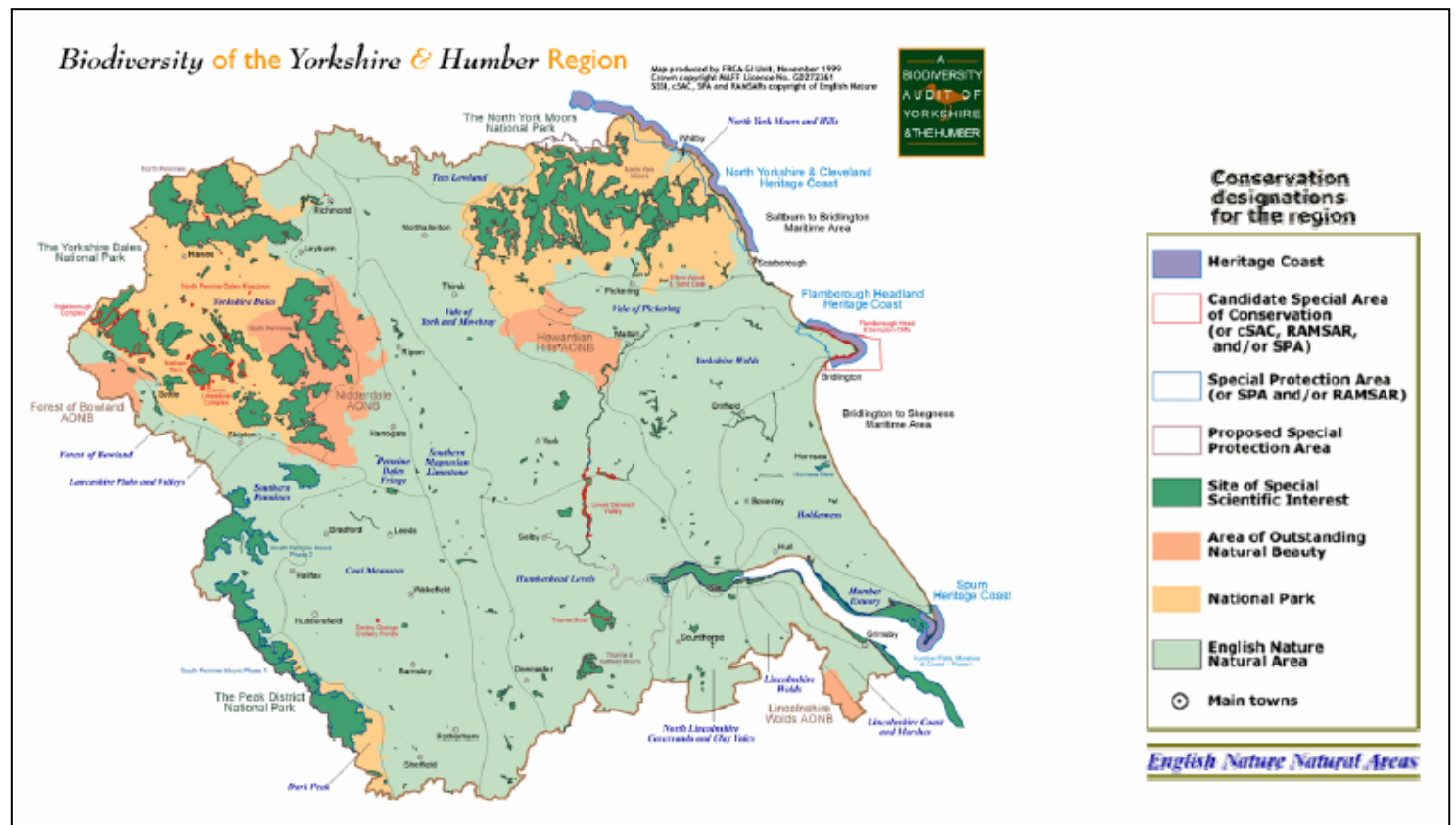
<http://www.ynypu.org.uk/Research/PIYNY.stm>



**Progress in York and North Yorkshire 2006
High Quality Environments**

Progress in York and North Yorkshire provides an overview of the economic, social and environmental situation in the York and North Yorkshire sub-region. The report mirrors Progress in the Region which is produced by Yorkshire Futures, the Regional Intelligence Network and follows the Advancing Together framework and high-level indicators produced by the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly, to provide an up-to-date assessment of the sub-region. This factsheet provides a summary of the key data and information from the High Quality Environments chapter.

A Bio-diverse and Attractive Natural Environment



A Bio-diverse environment is described as having a richness and variety of plants, birds, animals, fish and insects that exist throughout the world. Biological diversity is a limited natural resource that once lost cannot be replaced.

The Yorkshire and Humber Biodiversity Forum produce a Biodiversity Audit for the region which outlines a comprehensive review of the most important habitats and species in the Yorkshire and Humber Region, to assist the conservation of biodiversity. This work is supported at a local level by the Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs) which have been produced within most Local Authority areas and National Parks in the sub-region.

The map above was produced as part of the Biodiversity Audit and outlines areas of bio-diverse importance across the region. It highlights the National Parks, areas of Heritage Coast and Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

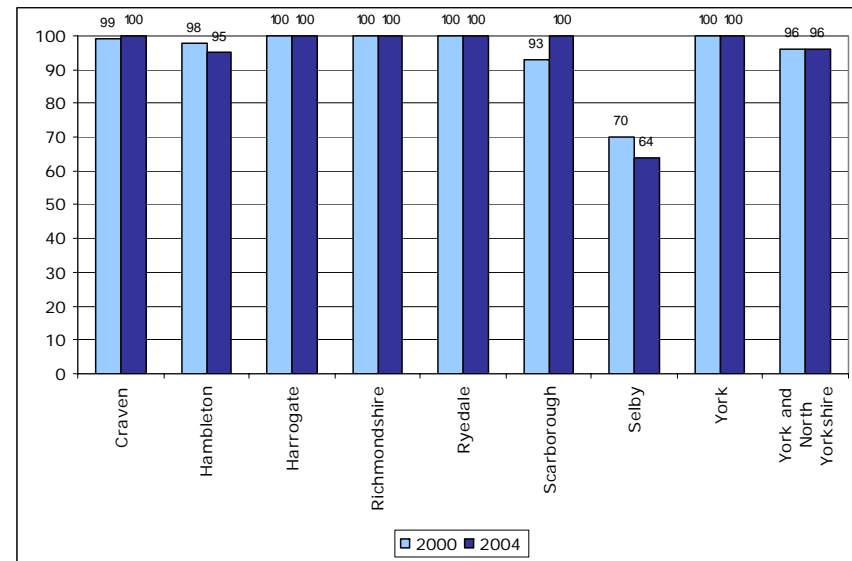
Advancing Together Vision

Yorkshire and Humber will have high quality natural and man-made environments.

Delivering high quality environments in Yorkshire and Humber entails protecting and enhancing our rich and varied environmental assets. To do this we will use resources wisely and efficiently, minimise pollution, and protect and enhance biodiversity. We will pursue good quality development and enhance poor quality environments in town and country. We will give urgent attention to tackle the causes and impacts of climate change, reduce waste and manage it sustainably, and safeguard threatened wildlife and landscape heritage.

Pollution Levels

Percentage total river length of good or fair biological quality, 2000 and 2004



Source: Environment Agency, 2005

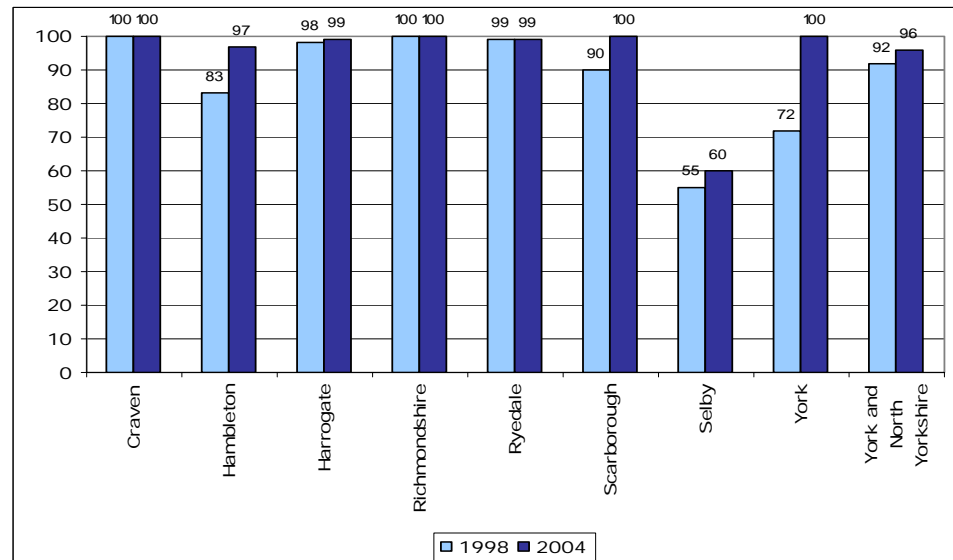
Rivers across the region are monitored to assess their chemical and biological quality. Rivers are then classified as 'good', 'fair', 'poor' or 'bad'.

The adjacent figure shows the percentage of total river length which was assessed as having good or fair biological quality. In 2004 96% of river length within York and North Yorkshire is classified as good or fair. Across the sub-region quality does vary from 64% in Selby to 100% in a number of districts. Only Hambleton and Selby districts experienced a decline in quality over the period 2000-2004, with Craven and Scarborough demonstrating an increase.

Percentage total river length of good or fair chemical quality, 1998 and 2004

In terms of the chemical quality, again 96% of the river length across York and North Yorkshire is classified as good or fair, at a local level the percentage of good or fair river length ranges from 60% in Selby to 100% across a number of districts. For this measure none of the districts demonstrated a decline over the period 1998 – 2004, with Hambleton and York demonstrating quite large increases in quality.

The chemical and biological quality of rivers in York and North Yorkshire are set against different baselines because the same baseline was not available for both sets of data.



Source: Environment Agency, 2005

Bathing Waters

Water Quality for beaches in York and North Yorkshire 1999-2003

Beaches	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Cayton Bay	G	G	E	E	G
Filey	G	G	G	G	E
Robin Hoods Bay	G	G	G	G	G
Runswick Bay	Closed	G	G	E	G
Sandsend	G	G	E	E	E
Scarborough North Bay	G	G	E	E (bF)	E (bF)
Scarborough South Bay	G	G	G	G	G
Staithe	P	P	G	G	P
Whitby	G	G	E	E (bF)	E (bF)

Source: Environment Agency and ENCAMS 2003

Key: E = Excellent G = Good P = Poor bF = Blue Flag Status

York and North Yorkshire has a large stretch of rugged coastline with a backdrop of the North York Moors National Park and is the setting for a number of resorts and fishing villages. This is a coastline of high cliffs and rocky shores, rich in flowers and wildlife.

There has been general improvement in the water quality at the sub-region's beaches with Scarborough North Bay and Whitby achieving Blue Flag Status for the last two years. However there have been some problems improving water quality at Staithe due to the proximity of seabirds and agricultural pollution. In general up until 2002 there has been steady improvement however it appears from the figures for 2003 that overall there has been a slight decline in quality.

Carbon Emissions

Carbon Dioxide Emissions by Local Authority

Area	Industry and Commercial	Domestic	Road Transport	Land Use Change	Total	Population Thousands ⁽¹⁾	Per capita CO2 (tonnes)	Domestic per capita CO2 (tonnes)
Yorkshire and	31,516	13,864	11,164	1,278	57,822	5,009	11.5	2.8
Craven	141	163	196	23	523	54	9.7	3.0
Hambleton	287	295	427	140	1149	85	13.5	3.5
Harrogate	428	486	625	83	1622	153	10.6	3.2
Richmondshire	125	152	273	70	620	50	12.4	3.1
Ryedale	219	179	215	142	755	51	14.7	3.5
Scarborough	346	315	194	61	917	107	8.6	3.0
Selby	815	250	375	77	1517	77	19.8	3.3
York	610	504	263	25	1402	183	7.7	2.8

Source: DEFRA, Local and Regional CO2 Emissions Estimates for 2003

DEFRA has produced a series of data which outlines indicative Carbon Dioxide Emissions estimates at the local and regional level. Analysis per capita highlights differences across the districts ranging from 7.7 in York to 19.8 tonnes in Selby. The regional average is 11.5 tonnes per capita.

Ecological Footprints

The Ecological Footprint is a tool which is used to measure the consumption of natural resources and the impact that this has on the global environment. This tool enables individuals and organisations to assess whether current consumption patterns are within the limits of the planet, and what action needs to be taken as a consequence in order to work towards a sustainable community.

The Ecological Footprint of the UK is 5.4 global hectares per person (a global hectare is a hectare whose biological productivity equals the global average), and according to the Living Planet Report, 2004, is amongst the highest 15 countries on a per person basis along with America (9.5 gha), Kuwait (9.4 gha), Australia (7.8 gha) and France (5.9 gha). The world average is 2.2 gha.

The table to the right shows the Ecological Footprints of the sub-region. According to this data, York and North Yorkshire does have a higher footprint than the UK average, 5.4 gha per person, whilst the rest of the region falls in under this average. Harrogate has the highest footprint at 5.67, whilst York has the lowest at 5.38.

Ecological Footprints in hectares per person, 2006

Area	Environmental Footprint (gha/capita)
Craven	5.46
Hambleton	5.63
Harrogate	5.67
Richmondshire	5.57
Ryedale	5.49
Scarborough	5.42
Selby	5.44
York	5.38
York & North Yorkshire	5.51
The Humber	5.23
South Yorkshire	5.24
West Yorkshire	5.19

Source: WWF, Stockholm Environment Institute, 2006

Priority Habitats

Condition of Sites of Special Scientific Interest, 2005

Area	% meeting PSA target	% favourable	% unfavourable recovering	% unfavourable no change	% unfavourable declining	% destroyed / part destroyed
Yorkshire and	58.31%	32.11%	26.20%	36.28%	5.41%	0.01%
York and North	55.79%	20.68%	35.11%	40.44%	3.76%	0.00%
The Humber	94.93%	91.75%	3.18%	2.15%	2.91%	0.02%
West Yorkshire	17.46%	1.84%	15.62%	77.39%	5.09%	0.06%
South Yorkshire	42.49%	16.16%	26.33%	33.08%	24.43%	0.00%

Source: English Nature, January 2006

Priority Habitat in the sub-region is dominated by Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). English Nature assess the condition of SSSIs through monitoring of presence, absence and abundance of indicator species for each type of habitat and also against measures of physical condition. The Government's Public Service Agreement (PSA) target is to have 95% of the SSSI area in favourable or recovering condition by 2010. The following table outlines the condition of SSSIs, in York and North Yorkshire 20% of SSSIs were in a favourable condition, which is lower than the regional average however the high percentage in the Humber does distort this average.