York and North Yorkshire Partnership Unit

York and North Yorkshire - Economic Bulletin

June 2010

Headline trends for York and North Yorkshire

- The numbers of people claiming JSA for over 6 months and over 12 months fell for the first time since the autumn of 2008.
- House prices and sales continue to increase across the sub region

Improving	Signs of improvement	Mixed outlook	Little sign of improvement	Deteriorating

National Indicators

	Latest Data	Change on previous data	Change on year	Trend
GDP	**+0.3%** (Q1 2010)	-	-	Revised estimates indicate that GDP increased by 0.3% in the first quarter of 2010.
CPI Inflation	**3.4** (05 2010)	**-0.3pp** (04 2010)	**+1.2pp** (05 2009)	Both the CPI and the RPI fell between April and May, largely due to downward pressure from a fall in the price of food and non alcoholic drinks compared to the same period last year, and smaller increases in the price of fuel than a year ago. There was however some upward pressure from the increase in housing and household services.
RPI Inflation	**5.1** (05 2010)	**-0.2pp** (04 2010)	**+6.2pp** (05 2009)	
VAT Registrations*	**14,865** (05 2010)	**-2,377** -13.8% (04 2010)	**+2,590** +21.1% (05 2009)	Although the number of businesses becoming VAT registered fell from the level seen in April, registrations remain higher than at the same time in the previous year. The number of de-registrations has also increased considerably since April and remains higher than in 2009.
VAT De-registrations*	**18,860** (05 2010)	**+3,452** +22.4% (04 2010)	**+4,117** +27.9% (05 2009)	

* Data is provisional

Labour Market

	Latest Data	Change on previous data	Change on year	Trend
Job Centre Plus Notified Vacancies	**5,229** (05 2010)	**+344** +7.0% (04 2010)	**+1,125** +27.4% (05 2009)	The number of vacancies increased in May. Over a quarter of those vacancies were elementary occupations
Claimant to Vacancy Ratio	**3.14** (05 2010)	**-0.32** (04 2010)	**-0.33** (05 2009)	There are now 3.14 claimants for every vacancy. Changes to the ratio result from an increase in the number of live unfilled vacancies and a decrease in the number of claimants.
Total number JSA Claimants	**12,906** (05 2010)	**-789** -5.8% (04 2010)	**-603** -4.5% (05 2009)	The claimant count continues to fall and is now at its lowest level since July 2009. The claimant rate has also fallen to 2.7% of the working age population, and is also at its lowest level since July of last year.
JSA Claimant Rate	**2.7** (05 2010)	**-0.1pp** (04 2010)	**-0.1pp** (05 2009)	
On Flow	**2,695** (05 2010)	**-30** -1.1% (04 2010)	**-155** -5.4% (05 2009)	Fewer people joined the claimant count in May than in the previous month. Despite a marginal decrease in the number of people leaving the count, the ratio of on flow to off flow has therefore fallen again with 0.8 people joining the count for each person coming off.
Off Flow	**3,376** (05 2010)	**-4** -0.1% (04 2010)	**+420** +14.2% (05 2009)	
JSA Claimants, 6 months +	**4,955** (05 2010)	**-90** -1.8% (04 2010)	**+1,840** +59.1% (05 2009)	The number of people claiming for 6 months or more fell for the first time since October 2008 but still remains in excess of the number at the same time last year.

JSA Claimants, 12 months +	**2,120** (05 2010)	**-25** -1.2% (04 2010)	**+1,320** +165.0% (05 2009)	In contrast to national and regional figures, the number of long term claimants in the sub region fell in May, for the first time since November 2008.
JSA Claimants, 18-24 yrs	**3,300** (05 2010)	**-390** -10.6% (04 2010)	**-210** -5.4% (05 2009)	The number of claimants aged 18-24 continues to fall and at a much quicker rate than seen regionally or nationally.
Working Age Employment Rate	**76.9%** (Oct 08 - Sept 09)	**-0.9pp** (Jul 08 – Jun 09)	**-3.5pp** (Oct 07 – Sept 08)	The working age population rate has fallen for the fourth consecutive quarter to 76.9%. Though the falls are steeper, it remains higher than the national and regional rates.
Working Age Un-employment Rate	**5.3%** (Oct 08 - Sept 09)	**+0.5pp** (Jul 08 – Jun 09)	**+2.1pp** (Oct 07 – Sept 08)	Similarly the unemployment rate increased for the fourth consecutive quarter in parallel to the rates seen nationally and regionally.

Housing Market

	Latest Data	Change on previous data	Change on year	Trend
Land Registry House Price Index Average Price	NY **£179,264** (05 2010)	**+£1,772** +1.0% (04 2010)	**+£11,141** +6.6% (05 2009)	House prices in York rose for the 14th consecutive month, although at a much slower rate between April and May. Prices in North Yorkshire recovered from a slight fall in April to reach their highest value since January 2009.
	York **£182,727** (05 2010)	**+£136** +0.1% (04 2010)	**+£15,765** +9.4% (05 2009)	
Land Registry Sales Volume	NY **511** (03 2010)	**+111** +27.8% (02 2010)	**+44** +9.4% (03 2009)	The number of sales rose again in March in both North Yorkshire and York. Sales in York and North Yorkshire account for 18% of those of the region.
	York **210** (03 2010)	**+34** +19.3% (02 2010)	**+90** +75.0% (03 2009)	
CLG Mean House Prices*#	**£216,312** (Q1 2010)	**-£5,764** +2.7% (Q4 2009)	**+£24,380** +12.7% (Q1 2009)	Average house prices increased in the sub region overall in the first quarter of 2010, although some local authorities did see small decreases.
CLG Property Sales*	**1,858** (Q1 2010)	**-1,717** -48.0% (Q4 2009)	**+434** +30.5% (Q1 2009)	The number of property sales decline in the sub region. It is not clear if such declines are seasonally affected with fewer transactions taking place in January.
Mortgage Possession Claims	**170** (Q1 2010)	**-50** -22.7% (Q4 2009)	**-67** -28.3% (Q1 2009)	Although an increase was seen regionally, the number of claims in York and North Yorkshire fell and are at their lowest level since Q1 2008.
Mortgage Possession Orders	**130** (Q1 2010)	**-45** -25.7% (Q4 2009)	**-22** -14.5% (Q1 2009)	The number of claims leading to orders decreased on both the quarterly and annual figures.
Landlord Possession Claims	**245** (Q1 2010)	**-5** -2.0% (Q4 2009)	**-13** -5.6% (Q1 2009)	The number of landlord possession claims fell slightly, and is at its lowest level since Q1 of 2008.
Landlord Possession Orders	**145** (Q1 2010)	**-75** -34.1% (Q4 2009)	**-88** 37.8% (Q1 2009)	The number of possession orders decreased again in Q1 of 2010

* Data is provisional

Figures for YNY are an unweighted average of the mean house prices of each District and York

Planning

	Latest Data	Change on previous data	Change on year	Trend
Total Planning Decisions*#	**1,994** (Q1 2010)	**+46** +2.4% (Q4 2009)	**-117** -5.5% (Q1 2009)	The number of planning decisions in the sub region increased in the first quarter of 2001 due mainly to increases in the number of minor applications decided.

* Data is provisional

Figures for Q2 2009 do not include data for Craven

Voluntary and Community Sector (the following information is provided by Voluntary and Community Sector representatives)

	Latest Data	Change on previous data	Change on year	Trend information
(Demand for Citizens Advice Bureau services – enquiries per quarter)			N/A – see information for details	See below
Benefits	**5,695**	**-258** -4.3%		
Debt	**7,131**	**+448** +6.7%		
Employment	**2,421**	**+374** +18.3%		
Health and community	**211**	**+15** +7.7%		
Relationships and family	**802**	**+6** +0.8%		

Current CAB figures do not include York and Harrogate, this information will be available shortly

The landscape is very hard to read for all sectors, not only with the effects of a recession but now following on from the forming of the new coalition government. Recent surveys of the Voluntary Community Sector have been undertaken both regionally and sub regionally and some of the results though not unexpected, do indicate a general air of optimism but with some clear difficulties and anomalies.

The optimism may well result from the coalitions stated position in relation to the value and importance of the Voluntary Community Sector, which is highly valued by those involved with the VCS. However there are many organisations at this moment in real dilemma as to whether they have a future at all. The inevitability of cuts is accepted but the lack of clarity over where they will come and how\where\when that will impinge upon other areas causes a good deal of speculation and instability. An example of this uncertainty shows itself when organisations were asked whether they anticipated Statutory bodies to have a positive or negative influence upon the success of their organisation in the next 12 months:
46% of North Yorkshire organisations said positive.
40% said negative.

One ongoing difficulty is that with the clear direction of Government toward Big Society – local delivery and 'Total Place' ethos, the need for good, early, effective communication and collaboration at grass roots level with Local Infrastructure and VCS groups is essential. However organisations when asked if they are involved in local \regional decision making and if they feel their involvement is appreciated\important there is a resounding **Yes**. When asked if they are funded appropriately to undertake this function there is a resounding **No.**

In terms of capacity the majority of organisations responded that their organisation was about the same or a little increased in relation to staffing, turnover or number of volunteers. However in line with previous anecdotal information almost 70% said that demand had increased. As in previous surveys, 47% were still able to meet this demand but now 38% said this was unsustainable long term.
It is also interesting to note that there were very few responding organisations less than a year old; the majority were established over 5-10 years. The time an organisation is established can have an influence on ability to cope with increased demand. However it is clear that though demand is growing now there will continue to be a marked increase over coming months and in to the foreseeable future. Collaboration to help to meet these demands is initially labour intensive and requires real investment.

New Businesses

	Latest Data	Change on previous data	Change on year	Trend	
No. new business accounts	**572** (05 2010)	**-38** -6.2% (04 2010)	**+102** +21.7% (05 2009)	Though the number of new business accounts opened in May was fewer than in previous months, the number remains higher than at the same time the previous year. Almost a third of all accounts were set up in the Real Estate sector, whilst over half were set up by sole traders.	

Please send any feedback on the format or the usefulness of the content to research@ynypu.org.uk.

Any suggestions for additional content will be gratefully received and considered.

www.ynypu.org.uk

yorkshirefutures