

For immediate release

A THIRD OF CHILDREN ACROSS YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER ARE LIVING IN POVERTY NEW RESEARCH SHOWS

New data from the government released today shows:

- 29% of all children are living in poverty across Yorkshire & The Humber.
- In 62% of constituencies in the region, a quarter or more of children are living in poverty.
- Bradford East is the constituency in Yorkshire & The Humber with the highest level of child poverty with 50% of all children here living in poverty.

Today, for the first time, government has produced child poverty figures (after housing costs) for every constituency and local authority across the UK (1). This new data shows that 1 in 3 children across Yorkshire & The Humber are living in poverty, after the cost of housing. Across the UK this figure stands at 27%.

This new data also shows that the vast majority of constituencies (62%) are home to families where 1 in 4 children (or more) lives in poverty. This could mean families using food banks to feed their children, using baby banks so children don't go without the essentials they need like clothes or nappies, or living in cold or unsafe housing.

As this data is produced retrospectively, the impact of the government's 'Tackling Child Poverty Strategy' can not be seen in these figures. Scrapping the two-child limit (due to happen on 6 th April2026), and increasing eligibility for free school meals in England (September 2026), alongside other measures will lead to a reduction in child poverty across Yorkshire & The Humber.

The End Child Poverty Coalition urges the government to continue investment to reduce child poverty levels, and to continue with its work to tackle child poverty in the West Midlands and across the UK.

Sophie Livingstone MBE, newly appointed chair of the End Child Poverty Coalition and CEO of Little Village baby banks said: "No child in Yorkshire & The Humber, or beyond should have to experience poverty. So many parents are under such strain because the system isn't working for them when childhood should be a

time of safety and opportunity, not filled with worry about where the next meal will come from or how you'll clothe your child.

"While measures like scrapping the two-child limit and widening access to free school meals will make a meaningful difference for many families, they are only part of the solution. We need sustained, long-term commitment from government to ensure every child has what they need to thrive. Anything less risks more families being pushed to the brink, and more children growing up without the basics they deserve."

"While we welcome the scrapping of the two child limit from this government, there is still so much more to be done to see a dramatic reduction in the number of children growing up in poverty," says Andy Peers, Chief Exec at Zarach, The Children's Bed Charity. "In one of the richest economies on the planet, that we have four MILLION children living in poverty is not something we should ever feel comfortable about".

(1) This data was previously produced by the End Child Poverty Coalition.

Yorkshire & The Humber

% of children living in poverty:

Bradford East	50.40%
Bradford West	49.30%
Leeds South	46.40%
Dewsbury and Batley	45.80%
Sheffield Brightside and Hillsborough	45.00%
Bradford South	43.10%
Great Grimsby and Cleethorpes	41.40%
Leeds East	39.90%
Halifax	37.40%
Huddersfield	37.70%
Kingston upon Hull East	38.70%
Rotherham	36.00%

Doncaster North	36.60%
Barnsley South	36.70%
Sheffield South East	37.00%
Leeds Central and Headingley	34.90%
Doncaster Central	34.50%
Keighley and Ilkley	33.30%
Scunthorpe	33.40%
Kingston upon Hull North and Cottingham	32.90%
Sheffield Heeley	33.90%
Kingston upon Hull West and Haltemprice	30.10%
Bridlington and The Wolds	30.40%
Leeds West and Pudsey	29.70%
Rawmarsh and Conisbrough	30.60%
Barnsley North	30.80%
Wakefield and Rothwell	28.10%
Normanton and Hemsworth	28.00%
Scarborough and Whitby	28.40%
Pontefract, Castleford and Knottingley	28.30%
Sheffield Central	29.00%
Doncaster East and the Isle of Axholme	28.80%
Spenn Valley	27.00%
Rother Valley	25.90%
Leeds North East	22.10%
Calder Valley	22.20%
York Central	22.90%
Brigg and Immingham	22.30%
Thirsk and Malton	21.70%
Leeds South West and Morley	21.60%
Beverley and Holderness	21.30%

Shipley	20.20%
Richmond and Northallerton	21.00%
Colne Valley	19.30%
Ossett and Denby Dale	18.90%
Selby	19.20%
Goole and Pocklington	18.20%
Skipton and Ripon	17.20%
Penistone and Stocksbridge	18.20%
Harrogate and Knaresborough	14.20%
York Outer	13.20%
Leeds North West	12.80%
Wetherby and Easingwold	11.00%
Sheffield Hallam	8.30%

ENDS

Media Contacts

Rachel Walters, End Child Poverty Coalition Manager,
 rachel@endchildpoverty.org.uk , 07918
 567577

Notes to editors:

The full data set for the child poverty data can be found here: this is taken from the government's HBAI data.

The End Child Poverty Coalition is made up of 140 organisations including child welfare groups, social justice groups, faith groups, trade unions and others.

Together with a group of Youth Ambassadors, members campaign for a UK free of child poverty. Further information on the Coalition can be found here;

<https://endchildpoverty.org.uk/about/>

This data uses a Relative After Housing Costs measure of child poverty. 'After Housing Costs' shows the income available to a household once rent, water rates, mortgage interest payments, buildings insurance payments, ground rent and service charges are paid. This enables a more accurate comparison of what

households have available to spend on food, utilities, clothing and leisure, than looking at income alone, given the disparity of rents in different parts of the UK.