

# More Door

# 84



A report on the Re-imagining Door 84 collaborative project between Door 84 and York St John University.



Institute  
for  
**Social  
Justice**

York St John University

Est.  
**1841**

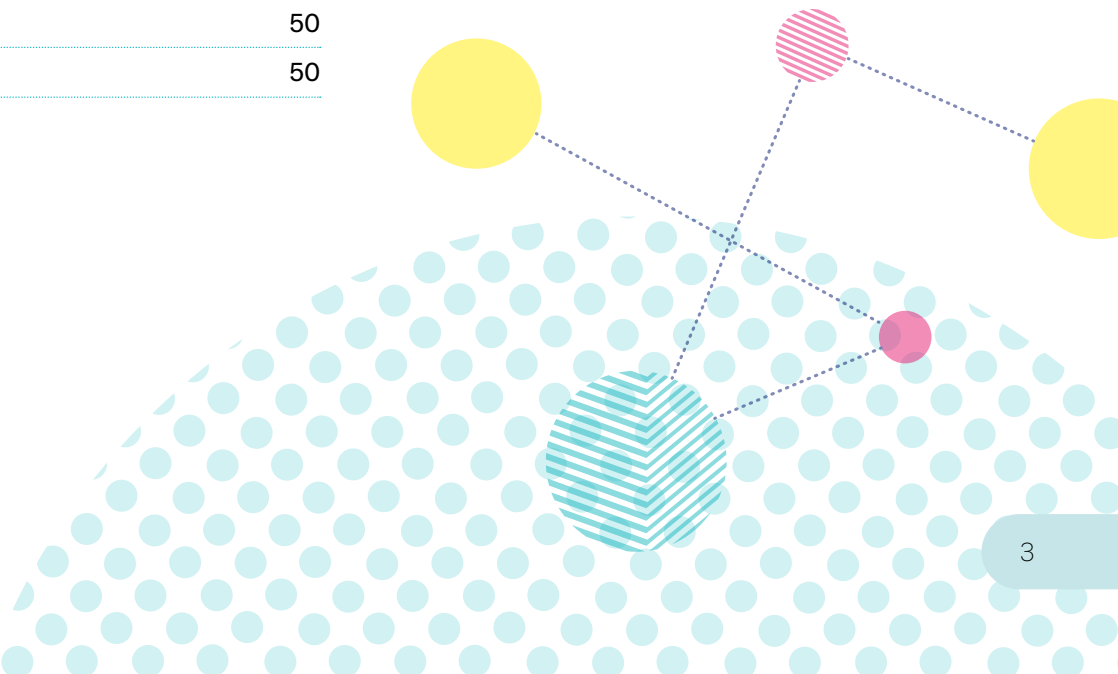
**YORK  
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## More Door 84 Executive Summary

### Project aims

Our project aimed to understand how visitors and other community members engage with and imagine Door 84, and how do these groups imagine the future of Door 84. We sought to do this by engaging in collaborative research practices with visitors to Door 84 and other community members.

### What we did

We regularly attended three Youth Sessions (8-17s and 16-25s on Mondays and 13-17s on Wednesdays), the Community Café and Pantry, and Community Sparks sessions across six months. During these sessions we recorded observations and informal conversations. In the Youth Sessions, we supported Youth Researchers to co-create their own research projects exploring how Door 84 currently functions and what its future could look like. These projects included surveys, mapping exercises, suggestion boards and boxes, and interviews, and recruited from those at Door 84 and a wide variety of stakeholders across The Groves and the broader York community. In the Community Sparks sessions, adults and carers also took part in an art activity, creating a collage of what they enjoyed at Community Sparks and what they would like to do more of in the sessions. In the Community Café and Pantry, we also engaged in participatory mapping exercises focused on how people felt about Door 84 and the local area, and what they might like to see change in the future. We also gathered data on the local context for Door 84, demonstrating that those visiting Door 84 are primarily those from the most disadvantaged wards in York.

### Key findings

Through analysing the data gathered across the various strands of this project, we found that:

1. Door 84 provides vital services, activities, food, and a safe space to many underserved members of the Groves and across York.
2. Door 84 functions to facilitate connections between people, other services, and local community infrastructure. Many important relationships for people across York depend on Door 84 to thrive.
3. Those who currently access Door 84 and other stakeholders feel Door 84 should expand. They would like to see an increased number of Youth and Community Sparks sessions throughout the week, with more activities on offer, and additional sessions aimed at other members of the community, including parents and young children, neurodiverse young people, the elderly, and those in need of support within The Groves.
4. By increasing the accessibility of the space at Door 84, more underserved York residents could benefit from what is on offer at the centre.
5. 'Community' as an idea is understood differently by different people who visit Door 84. Whilst some feel that Door 84 helps build community, others were aware of tensions in who might be included in The Groves or York communities and did not feel part of these communities just because they accessed Door 84.

### Recommendations

#### For Door 84:

1. To continue to offer current sessions and activities and to consider how to expand these to offer more Youth and Community Sparks sessions throughout the week.
2. To consider expanding the variety of sessions currently offered at Door 84 to include other underserved local people such as parents and young children, neurodiverse young people, the elderly, and more people within The Groves.
3. To think about how the space at Door 84 could be adapted to be more accessible to facilitate additional opportunities for everyone to engage in the activities and sessions at Door 84.
4. To raise awareness of the services on offer at Door 84 by reaching out to local groups and using advertisements.

#### For other partners:

1. To prioritise the values of reciprocity and collaboration in relationships with Door 84, and to think about either financial or 'in-kind' support where appropriate. Referring agencies should understand there is a cost to Door 84 for their referral, and partners should recognise the potential savings they make in utilising Door 84's facilities, services, and networks.
2. To consider the potentially detrimental impacts that partnership work with Door 84 can have on staff, volunteers, and visitors at Door 84. In particular, partnership work should be done with empathy and respect for those visiting Door 84 and should prioritise their needs. Volunteers should commit for a significant period of time to build relationships with those accessing Door 84.
3. For the new combined Local Authority to have a deeper understanding of the value of Door 84 to social provision and the risks to The Groves and York if Door 84 were to reduce its offer, or close, due to lack of funding.

### Conclusion

There are few other community or youth spaces left in York. Without Door 84 those living in disadvantaged and underserved communities would be significantly impacted, with many cut off from important services and significantly socially isolated. Door 84 is a longstanding charitable organisation that plays a vital role in the community and will require further funding in the future to maintain and expand the important service it provides.

# Youth Groups Executive Summary

## What we did

We attended youth sessions on Mondays (8-17's and 16-25's) and Wednesdays (13-17's) over six months, recording observations and working with youth researchers in these sessions to co-create several projects. Youth Researchers developed their own projects exploring how Door 84 currently functions and what it's future could look like. These projects included surveys, mapping exercises, suggestion boards and boxes, and interviews. These youth researcher projects variously recruited participants from young people attending the Door 84 youth sessions, volunteers and staff from Door 84, young people from across York, teachers and educators from across York, community members from the Groves, and other external stakeholders. Youth researchers reviewed the analysis of their projects, providing feedback.

## Key findings

Through analysing the data, we found that:

1. Door 84 plays a vital role in bringing young people together to make new friends and gain in confidence in a safe environment that fosters the building of community.
2. Food is important in Door 84 youth sessions by creating a means of socialising, developing life-skills, developing opinions and identities in a safe space, as well as practically for feeding young people.
3. There is insufficient awareness of what Door 84 is and what it has to offer. With more awareness created through advertising, Door 84 could reach more people who would benefit from the services it offers.
4. When re-imagining the future of Door 84, participants wanted to see more of what Door 84 already offers rather than huge change. This includes more youth sessions, more tryps, more arts and craft, and even expanding the service to create more Door 84's.
5. Door 84 could benefit underserved members of the community by becoming more accessible, particularly for neurodiverse young people.

## Recommendations

### For Door 84:

1. To raise awareness of the services on offer at Door 84 by reaching out to local groups and using advertisements.
2. To consider increasing the number of youth sessions in a week and look for other opportunities to expand the service for other users and in other locations.
3. To develop the accessibility of Door 84 to enable greater use of the space by underserved members of the local community, with a particular emphasis on creating spaces that are inclusive for neurodiverse young people.

### For other partners:

1. For referring agencies to understand there is a cost to Door 84 for their referral and for Door 84 to explore how this value can be strategically valued.
2. For the universities to work more closely with Door 84 to a) develop better placement practices (there needs to be a limit on numbers of students) and b) less exploitative research practice especially with regards to dissertation projects.
3. For the new combined Local Authority to have a deeper understanding of the value of Door 84 to social provision.

# Community Sparks Executive Summary

## What we did

We attended 10 Community Sparks sessions, recording observations and informal conversations with adults and carers. Adults and carers also took part in an art activity, creating a collage of what they enjoy doing at Community Sparks and what they would like to do more of at Community Sparks.

## Key Findings

Through analysing the data, we found that:

1. Community Sparks provides a safe space for adults with support needs, offering a variety of activities that reflect their interests.
2. The safe space at Community Sparks is created by carefully structured activities and rituals which are familiar, providing the adults with confidence and freedom to express themselves and socialise in different ways.
3. Community Sparks is underpinned by relational practice, which fosters a keen sense of belonging for adults and their carers.
4. Community Sparks provides a vital service to adults with support needs. Without Community Sparks, many of the adults would be deprived of the social outlet they need to flourish.

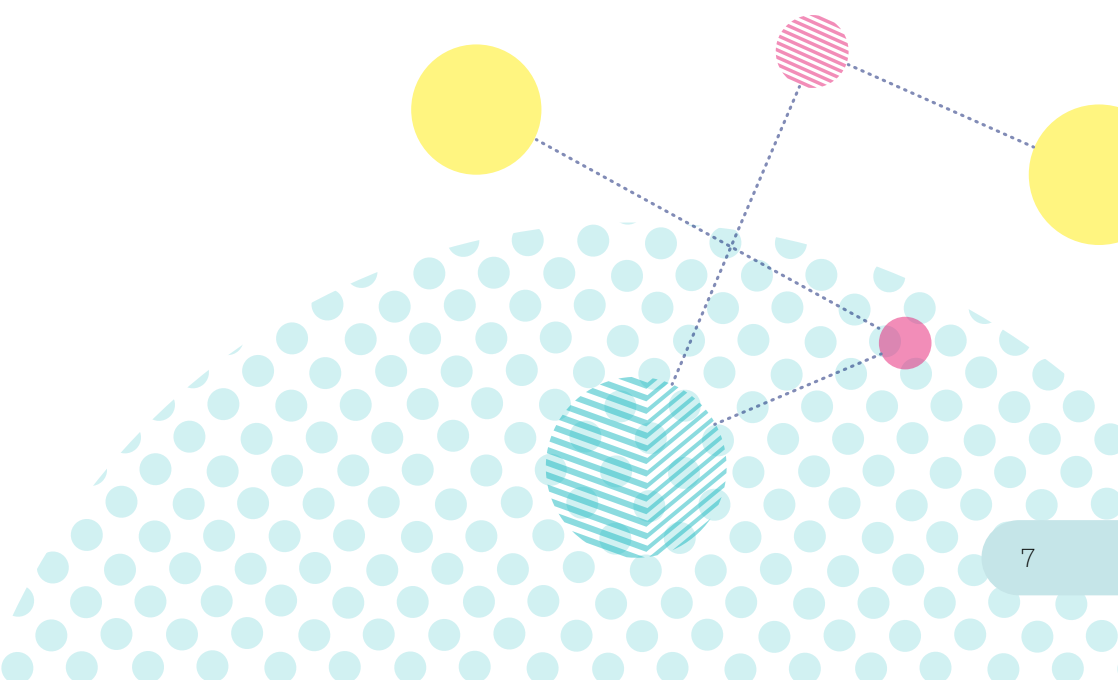
## Recommendations

### For Door 84:

1. To continue to offer a variety of activities reflecting the interests of the adults attending Community Sparks.
2. To continue with the relational practices that underpin Community Sparks and create belonging.
3. To consider offering a third day of Community Sparks, which would have a new focus.
4. To think about how the physical space of Door 84 could be adapted to facilitate different activities that provide different opportunities for adults to express themselves and socialise.

### For other partners:

1. Funders should support Community Sparks to enable its continuation and potential growth to meet the demand for the vital service it provides.
2. As relational practices are central to the success of Community Sparks, volunteers should commit for a significant period of time to build relationships with adults and their carers.





## Introduction

### Community Cafe and Pantry Executive Summary

#### What we did

We attended six sessions, recording observations and informal conversations with visitors in the cafe. Visitors also took part in participatory mapping activities in the cafe where they were encouraged to write on the maps and to use post-it notes to anonymously explain what they thought about Door 84 and the local area, and what they might like to see change in the future.

#### Key findings

1. Some cafe visitors questioned the idea of 'community' and suggested that they don't feel like part of a community just because they attend Door 84. They raised questions about 'who the community is' and how it is defined.
2. Cafe visitors would like a greater variety of safe and free spaces for children and parents. They point to gaps in provision in other local areas, and to a need for more services across age groups.
3. It was agreed that Door 84 could be an even more flexible community space, and that there is a lot of potential for a variety of events and uses. These new offerings should be accessible and contribute to Door 84's financial sustainability as well as making a positive impact on the neighbourhood.
4. Door 84 is vital to the local community infrastructure- many smaller relationships depend on Door 84 to thrive.
5. Locals are concerned about being left behind by the regeneration of the city, and they feel like students and tourists are a bigger priority for planners. They acknowledge that students can make a positive contribution but feel that local people are underrepresented in housing issues and other key areas.

#### Recommendations

##### For Door 84:

1. To consider how partnerships can be reciprocal and sustainable- both in current and future uses of the space.
2. To consider how the community cafe and pantry can continue to meet the needs of current visitors, whilst recognising some of the tensions around ideas of 'community', and prioritising reaching people in the immediate area (The Groves) who need support.

##### For other partners:

1. To prioritise values of reciprocity and collaboration in relationships with Door 84, and to think about either financial or 'in-kind' support where it is appropriate.
2. To recognise the associated costs of running Door 84, and the potential savings that partners make in utilising Door 84's services and networks.
3. To consider the potentially detrimental short-term and long-term impacts that partnership with Door 84 can have on staff, volunteers and visitors.
4. To ensure that partnership and use of the space is authentic to Door 84's ethos, and that it is mindful of the varied, intersecting forms of vulnerability and disadvantage that Door 84's visitors may be experiencing.
5. To conduct services and collaboration in and with Door 84 with empathy and respect for the visitors of Door 84, and to prioritise their needs.

This research project was a collaboration between Door 84 and York St John University. It was funded by the York St John Institute for Social Justice and match funded in kind by Door 84.

Our project had the following overarching research question:

How do users and other community members engage with, imagine and re-imagine Door 84 and The Groves and how do these groups benefit from engaging in participatory action research and co-creation?

By exploring this research question, our project aimed to:

- Develop our understanding of the wider community of The Groves, and its position in the city;
- Allow us to empower children, young people and community members to actively engage in research into their community and Door 84;
- Allow us to empower children, young people and community members to actively engage in research into the benefits and challenges of their own participation in research and co-creation;
- Understand the challenges that prevent members of the community from engaging with the activities and resources that Door 84 offers;
- Develop opportunities to maximise engagement and encourage 'hard-to-reach' groups to establish relationships with Door 84;
- Capture the ways in which users and wider community members engage with, imagine and re-imagine Door 84;
- Use co-creation methods to present this re-imagining as an artistic mural.

Halfway through the project, we were able to gain funding from York St John to explore research and analysis with young people in creative ways. This enabled us to employ two illustrators, Sarah White and Matthew Cole who worked with our research findings and the young people to develop two board games. They also worked with the rest of Door 84 to develop the mural as part of reflection on the process and analysis which will be discussed in depth later.

This report will introduce Door 84 and the context it is within, how we collaborated and carried out the project, our findings and recommendations. There are appendices at the back with further information. The report has been compiled by the YSJ researchers but has had input from Door 84 at all stages.

## Our Collaboration

The project is a collaboration between Door 84 and York St John. The York St John team comprised Tom Dobson (Education), Amy Holmes (Sociology), Charlotte Haines Lyon (Education), Isobel Clare (Sociology), Charlene Clempson (Illustration). The key Door 84 project partners were Lisa Green, Heidi Haywood, Diane Lambert, George Arksey and Kath Craigen. Many other staff volunteers and beneficiaries collaborated too but those named above helped manage the project. As well as regular meetings, we saw each other at sessions and emailed each other throughout the project. We also established a project management group that met each month to ensure the progress and shape of the project was mutually agreeable. The group consisted of Lisa, Heidi, George, Tom, Amy, Charlotte and Isobel. All YSJ researchers underwent DBS checks and safeguarding training and ensured they followed Door 84 protocols.

At the beginning, the project management group met together to develop the final proposal for the Institute of Social Justice. This involved developing a research approach that was participatory where possible and benefited all involved. The YSJ team was keen to work with young people and develop their research skills, so the young people themselves could carry out research and develop their own skills and agency; this approach was agreed by Door 84 as it aligned with their ethos. More details on this strand of the project will be discussed in section xxx We set up a handbook detailing the aims and objectives of the project, and the agreed ways of working. The YSJ team wanted to ensure that Door 84 was at the centre of the project and could shape it rather than simply having researchers go in and extract information.

It was important to work in partnership throughout the project, therefore the YSJ team took care to build relationships with staff, volunteers and beneficiaries by attending the different sessions at Door 84 throughout December, including Community Sparks Cafe, the Community Café and Community Pantry, and the youth groups on Monday and Wednesday nights. This allowed us to gain an understanding of Door 84, its ethos, and to get to know everyone involved. In January the research team aligned with different research strands. Therefore, Amy attended the Community Café / Pantry sessions, Tom went to Community Sparks, and Charlotte and Isobel attended three youth groups: the 16-25 group, the 8-17 group, and the 13-17 group, allowing them to further build relationships with staff, volunteers, and beneficiaries. This was seen as particularly important if we were to build trust and to work with the young people. This familiarisation phase enabled us to further understand the context; we were able to develop more concrete plans for research and discussed these at length with the steering group. We developed three research strands which will be discussed below. As our relationship with Door 84 strengthened and trust developed, the researchers worked independently within the group settings but always in contact with Door 84.



## Door 84

Door 84 is a registered charity which has been providing a range of services to children, young people and the community in York for over 50 years. After a history of being York Boys Club, Door 84 was established as a youth centre in 1969, and the current building on Lowther Street, the Groves, in the Guildhall Ward of York opened its doors as Door 84 in 1971, thanks to the work of various civic minded citizens of York to open a provision for the “development of boys, young men and girls and young women in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential both within the club environment and within the community at large” (Door 84 archive).

Today, the charity provides services to children and young people including youth projects, arts projects and play therapy, as well as services to adults with learning disabilities, and the wider community such as the community cafe and community pantry. As stated on their website, Door 84’s vision is to “empower our service users to achieve their potential and lead happy, safe and fulfilled lives.” Furthermore, their mission is to

provide an innovative, welcoming and stimulating environment that offers children, young people and the community a wide range of social and developmental opportunities that are supportive, challenging and fun. It is our Mission to be a sustainable physical and community hub, creating bridges between young people, families, parents and carers, and providing opportunities and spaces for the community to come together.

To be able to maintain their services, the building and to protect their future, it is essential that Door 84 can secure appropriate funding, but to do this it is necessary to understand how best to move forward which led to this project. It should be noted that the building is large and old, expensive to heat, and not always as accessible to everyone as would be desirable – for example a lift is needed to the upstairs.

Further contextual details will be provided in the following section.



Local Context

Research by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) suggests that whilst financial deprivation is significantly harmful to neighbourhoods, the impact of social deprivation on these same communities should not be ignored (Bolton and Dessent, 2024). Combined with economic deprivation, a lack of robust social infrastructure leads to a ‘double disadvantaging’ of these communities, who suffer from poorer outcomes across a range of key quality of life indicators. JRF specifically identifies the decline in social spaces such as “community centres, residents’ associations, and neighbourhood cafes and shops” as a key factor that compounds the effects of economic disadvantage (ibid). Furthermore, the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) consultation on ‘Left-Behind Neighbourhoods’ has concluded that social exclusion has significant consequences for unemployment, child poverty and health outcomes (APPG for Left Behind Neighbourhoods, 2024) and has developed nine dimensions of disadvantage that are experienced by these neighbourhoods. The study has identified the 225 most left-behind neighbourhoods in the United Kingdom, and most of these are found in the North of England, around cities such as Manchester, Leeds and Newcastle upon Tyne (APPG for Left Behind Neighbourhoods, 2024). Whilst none of the 225 designated ‘left-behind’ neighbourhoods are in the York region, this research is vital to understanding the position of Guildhall Ward (and consequently, The Groves and Door 84) within a more affluent, regenerating city. Corresponding with the APPG’s findings, The Groves experiences significantly poorer health, employment, and living environment outcomes than other neighbourhoods in the City, demonstrating the link between economic and social wellbeing. To further understand the disadvantages within the area the Door 84 serves, we have used a variety of measures below.

The APPG for ‘Left-Behind Neighbourhoods’- 9 dimensions of deprivation

The APPG has identified nine dimensions of deprivation that contribute to lower quality of life in ‘left-behind’ neighbourhoods:

- Higher rates of poverty
- Less vibrant local economies
- Fewer opportunities to secure skilled employment
- Lower educational attainment
- Worse population health
- Higher rates of disability
- Limited connectivity
- Weaker social fabric
- Less funding and investment (APPG for Left Behind Neighbourhoods, 2024)

Throughout the report, we discuss local data that contributes to a profile of Guildhall Ward, and therefore The Groves, as ‘left-behind’ in the more affluent City of York. Across the majority of the measures that were identified by the APPG, Guildhall Ward reports worse outcomes than other areas of the city, demonstrating a correspondence between the economic circumstances of The Groves, and the social challenges that it faces.

The 2019 Indices of Multiple Deprivation

This following information is derived from City of York Council data (CYC, 2019) and from data that was collated by the Consumer Data Research Centre (CDRC, 2024).

The Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) are used to calculate a relative multiple deprivation score based on seven domains of inequality. These domains are weighted in the following proportions, to give the overall Index of Multiple Deprivation score for small areas across England:

Measure	Weighting
Income Deprivation	22.5%
Employment Deprivation	22.5%
Education, Skills and Training Deprivation	13.5%
Health Deprivation and Disability	13.5%
Crime	9.3%
Barriers to Housing and Services	9.3%
Living Environment Deprivation	9.3%

(City of York Strategic Intelligence Hub, 2022)

Based on these calculations, more deprived areas will receive a higher score. The IMD also ranks areas, with a rank of 1 assigned to the most deprived area.

The report will focus on Upper Tier Local Authorities (UTLAs/ County Councils), Lower Tier Local Authority Districts (LTLADs/ District Councils), and wards.

York at a glance

In 2019, York is the 12th least deprived UTLA in England, with an average IMD score of 11.73 (rank 140 out of 151 UTLAs). The range in England is 5.85 to 45.04. Of 15 UTLAs in the Yorkshire and Humber region, York is the least deprived UTLA.

York is the 51st least deprived LTLAD in England (rank 267 out of 317 LTLADs). Behind Harrogate, York is the second least deprived LTLAD in the Yorkshire and Humber Region in 2019.

Table of IMD Domains for York (UTLA level)

Domain	2019	
	Rank (1=most deprived, 151=least)	York position v 151 UTLAs
Index of Multiple Deprivation	140	12th least deprived
Income Domain	140	12th least deprived
Employment Domain	139	13th least deprived
Education, Skills & Training Domain	115	37th least deprived
Health & Disability Domain	108	44th least deprived
Crime Domain	146	6th least deprived
Barriers to Housing & Services Domain	118	34th least deprived
Living Environment Deprivation	94	58th least deprived
Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index	139	13th least deprived
Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index	135	17th least deprived

(City of York Council Strategic Intelligence Hub, 2022)

The above table shows the 7 domains that constitute the IMD, and two additional indices that measure the impact of income deprivation on children and older people. Compared to other Local Authorities, York performs best across the Crime domain (6th least deprived UTLA) and the worst for Living Environment Deprivation (58th least deprived UTLA), Health and Disability (44th least deprived UTLA) and Education, Skills and Training (37th least deprived UTLA). An additional area for consideration is the Barriers to Housing and Services domain (34th least deprived UTLA).

Domain	2019	2015	Change in rank from 2015 to 2019
	York position v 151 UTLAs	York position v 152 UTLAs	
Index of Multiple Deprivation	12th least deprived	17th least deprived	5 places better
Income Domain	12th least deprived	13th least deprived	1 place better
Employment Domain	13th least deprived	13th least deprived	no change
Education, Skills & Training Domain	37th least deprived	26th least deprived	11 places worse
Health & Disability Domain	44th least deprived	30th least deprived	14 places worse
Crime Domain	6th least deprived	22nd least deprived	16 places better
Barriers to Housing & Services Domain	34th least deprived	40th least deprived	6 places better
Living Environment Deprivation	58th least deprived	69th least deprived	11 places better
Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index	13th least deprived	18th least deprived	5 places better
Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index	17th least deprived	18th least deprived	1 place better

(City of York Council Strategic Intelligence Hub, 2022)

Longitudinal comparison shows that between 2015 and 2019, there were improvements on all but 3 of the domains (including the two income deprivation indices). Whilst there was no change in rank for Employment, in both the Education, Skills and Training and Health and Disability domains, York attained lower rankings than in 2015 (11 places worse and 14 places worse respectively). Although there have been improvements in the Living Environment domain, from the 69th to the 58th least deprived UTLA, this domain is still an area of concern, as York ranks significantly lower for this measure than for the other domains.

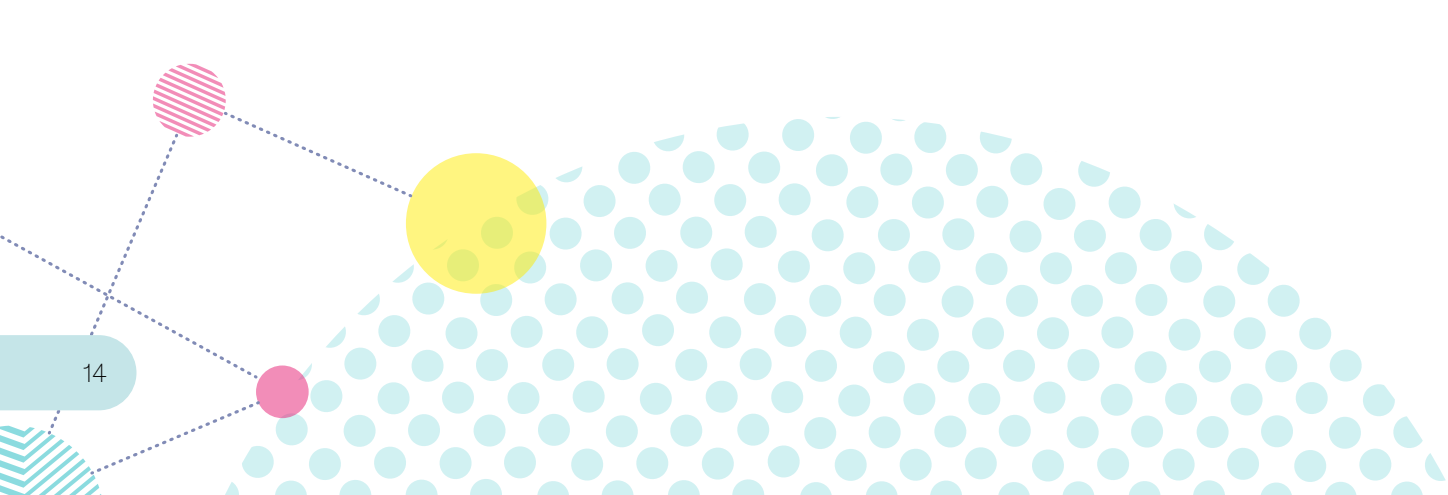
Employment measures “the proportion of the working-age population in an area involuntarily excluded from the labour market. This includes people who would like to work but are unable to do so due to unemployment, sickness or disability, or caring responsibilities.” (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, 2020)

Education, Skills and Training “measures the lack of attainment and skills in the local population. The indicators fall into two sub-domains: one relating to children and young people, and one relating to adult skills.” (Open Data Communities, n.d.)

Health and Disability measures “the risk of premature death and the impairment of quality of life through poor physical or mental health. The domain measures morbidity, disability and premature mortality but not aspects of behaviour or environment that may be predictive of future health deprivation.” (Open Data Communities, n.d.)

The Living Environment domain measures “the quality of the local environment. The indicators fall into two sub-domains. The indoors living environment measures the quality of housing; while the outdoors living environment contains measures of air quality and road traffic accidents.” (Open Data Communities, n.d.).

The four most deprived wards in York are Westfield, Clifton, Guildhall and Heworth. From 2015 to 2019, Guildhall ward remained the third most deprived ward in York. Visitors to Door 84 are predominantly from Guildhall and the surrounding wards, but the centre also provides services for people from the wider York region.





As is illustrated by the map below, Guildhall Ward is bordered by another two of the four most deprived wards (Clifton and Heworth), and by another four of the ten most deprived wards in York. These wards are mainly located near the city centre and are primarily within the York Outer Ring-road. The wards that are further from the city centre and the ring-road are typically the least deprived in York.

Most of the city centre falls within the boundaries of Guildhall ward, in which The Groves and Door 84 are situated. The ward boundaries encompass a mix of residential, commercial and industrial space; the Nestlé chocolate factory, St Nick’s nature reserve and York Minster are all situated within Guildhall. The campus for York St John University is located on Lord Mayor’s Walk, and many of its students live in the surrounding streets, or in the university owned housing within The Grange. Guildhall has a population of just under 18,000 residents, 22% of whom are social housing tenants, 38% of whom are private renters, and 37% of whom own their own home (CYC Business Intelligence Hub, 2022). According to CYC Business Intelligence data for 2022, 9.53% of the city’s total Council Housing stock is located in Guildhall ward.

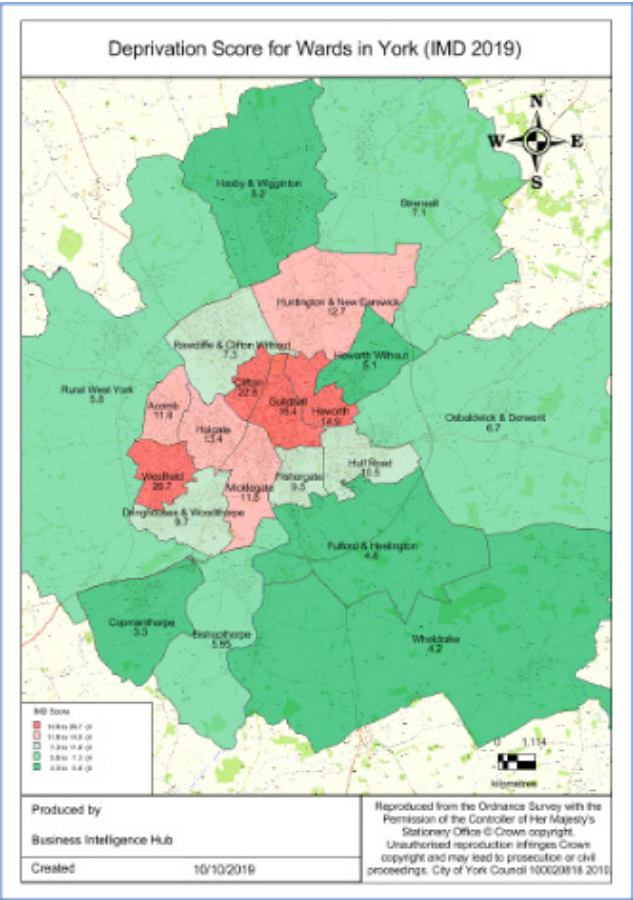


Figure (1) A map of the overall Indices of Multiple Deprivation Score for the York Wards (City of York Council Business Intelligence Hub, 2022)

Guildhall ward summary

Demographic information derived from 2021 Census (Office for National Statistics, 2024)

According to 2021 Census data, Guildhall ward had a population of 14,600 people (Office for National Statistics, 2024).

Data from the 2021 Census indicated that 53.1% of Guildhall residents were female, and 46.9% were male. Women were slightly overrepresented in the Guildhall population, by 2.1% in comparison to the national population.

People in Guildhall predominantly identified as White (85.5%) with Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh people making up the next largest population (8.1%). There are three and a half times fewer Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African people in Guildhall (1.2%) than in the national population (4.2%).

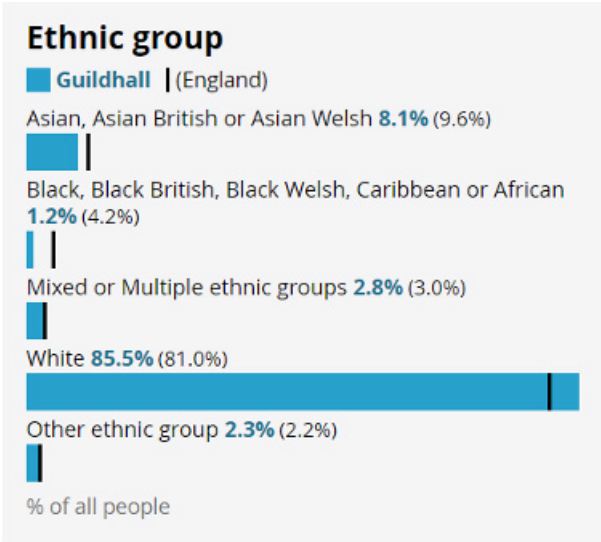


Figure (2): Distribution of population by ethnic group in Guildhall using 2021 Census data (Office for National Statistics, 2024).

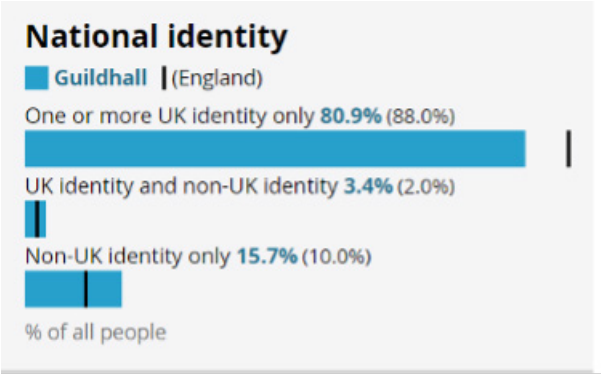


Figure (3): Distribution of population by national identity in Guildhall using 2021 Census data (Office for National Statistics, 2024).

Proportionally, there are 7.1% fewer people with UK identity only in Guildhall than in the comparative national group. There are a greater proportion of people with non-UK identity only in Guildhall (15.7%) than in England overall (10.0%). Just over a fifth (21.3%) of Guildhall residents responded that they were born outside of the UK, and 78.7% responded that they were born in the UK. Guildhall has a higher percentage of residents born outside of the UK than England does overall (17.4%).

People in Guildhall predominantly identify themselves as having no religion (53.8%). This is significantly higher than in the national population, where 36.7% of people registered no religion. Christianity and all other religions but Buddhism were underrepresented in comparison to England overall.

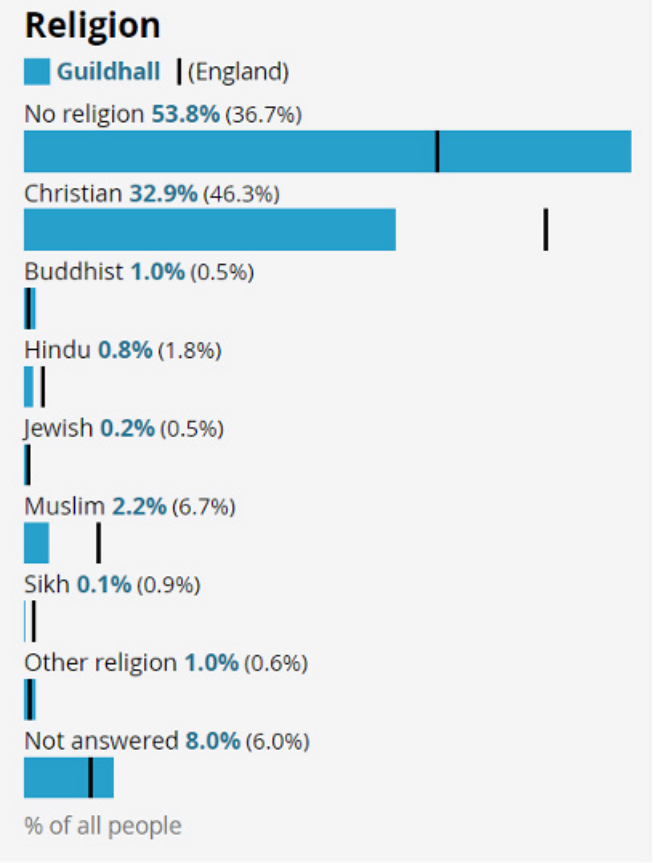


Figure (4): Distribution of population by religion in Guildhall using 2021 Census data (Office for National Statistics, 2024).

37.2% of people were aged between 20 and 29. The proportion of people in this age group was three times higher than in the comparative national group. The age profile for Guildhall is skewed towards younger adults, potentially due to Guildhall’s proximity to both York St John University and York Hospital. Both institutions are major employers, and also serve Guildhall’s large student population as education providers. Other age groups are under-represented in Guildhall Ward.

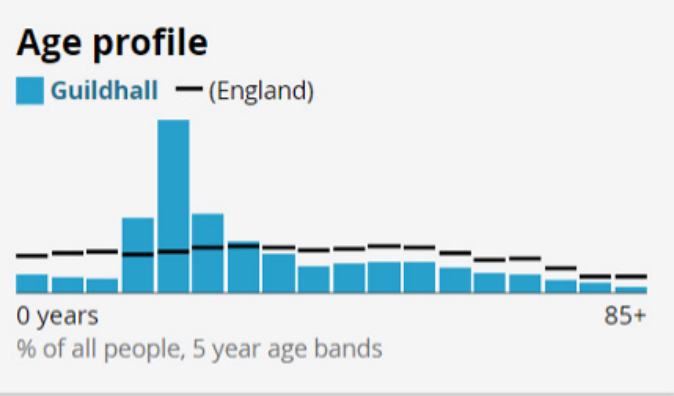


Figure (5): Age profile of Guildhall residents using 2021 Census data (Office for National Statistics, 2024)



Household composition

There are many single person households, which may account for the under-representation of children and young people below the ages of 15. 44.8% of respondents reported living in one-person households, which was nearly one and a half times more than in the national population. The next largest household type was that of the single family, of which 40.7% of the population identified as. There are a third fewer single-family households in Guildhall than in the national population. Other household types include but are not limited to multiple family households and Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMOs) that are typically rented by students. There are more than twice as many Other household types in Guildhall (14.5%) as there are in the national population. Nearly half of Guildhall's population (48.3%) lived in private rented or rent-free households. This is more than twice the amount of the general England population living in the same household type. In comparison, nearly half as many households in Guildhall are either owned outright or owned with a mortgage or shared ownership (33.3%) as there are in the general national population. Guildhall also has a slightly higher population of socially rented houses than in England overall.

Tenure of household

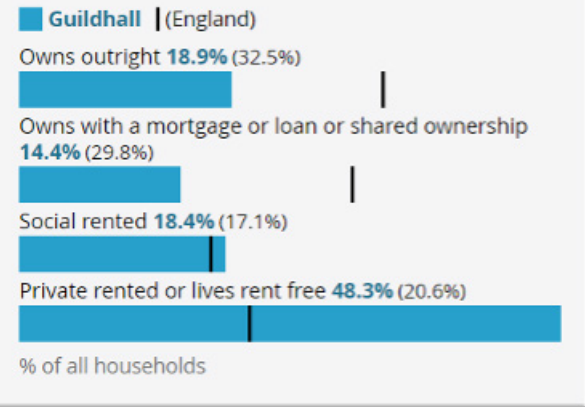


Figure (6): Distribution of population by household tenure in Guildhall using 2021 Census data (Office for National Statistics, 2024).

General health

Overall, nearly 85% of residents reported having either good or very good health, compared to 82.2% of the overall England population. Fewer Guildhall residents reported having bad or very bad health than the overall population. Slightly more people in Guildhall identified as Disabled under the Equality Act (17.9%) than in the overall population (17.3%).

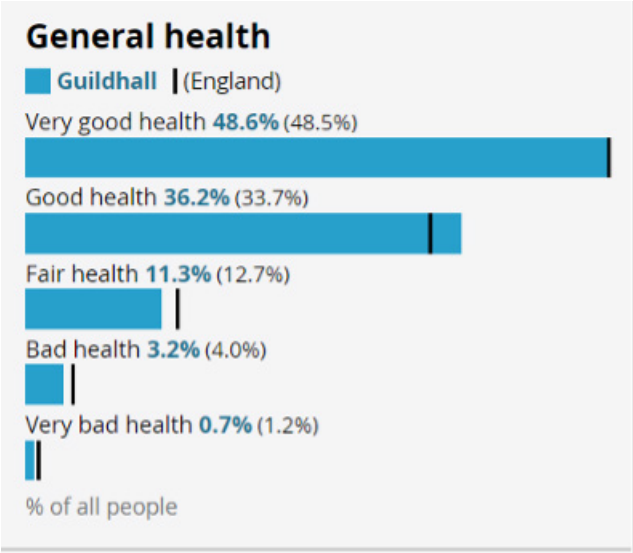


Figure (7): Distribution of population by general health in Guildhall using 2021 Census data (Office for National Statistics, 2024).

Geographic distribution of Door 84 Youth Group attendees (between April 2023- April 2024)

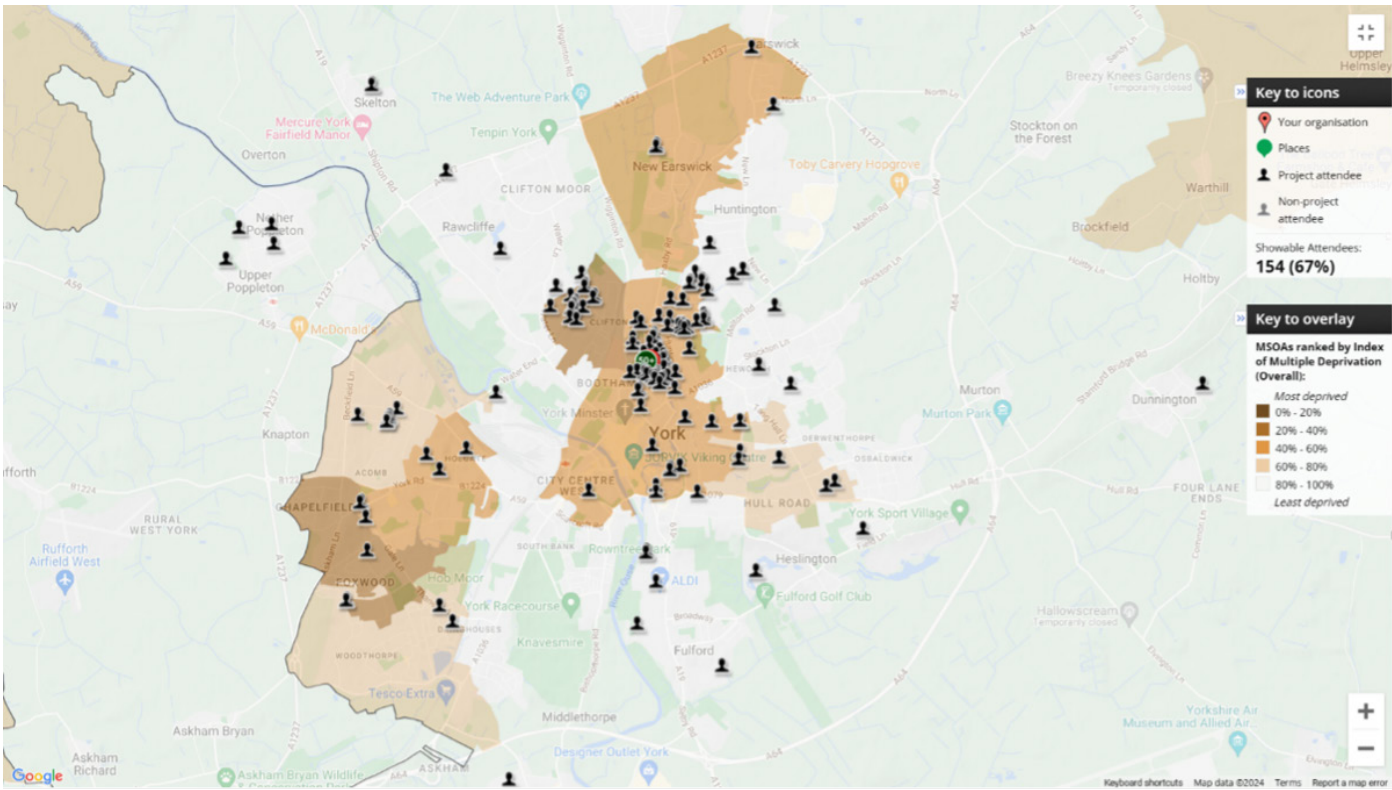


Figure (8) Map of York, showing the geographic spread of Door 84 attendees (Door 84 internal)

The map shows the geographic spread of attendees to Door 84 youth sessions between April 2023 and April 2024, overlaid with the Overall Indices of Multiple Deprivation. The majority of attendees are from the Groves or are from Guildhall and the surrounding wards of Clifton, Heworth and Hull Road. Young people from other wards such as Acomb, Holgate and Westfield make up the next largest group of attendees. Door 84 primarily serves attendees from Central York, with some attendees from the York villages (Dunnington, Skelton, Upper and Nether Poppleton). Eight percent of attendees are from the most deprived MSOAs (Middle Layer Super Output Area), which encompass the Clifton and Chapelfields areas of York. Approximately seventy percent of attendees are from MSOAs that are in the third most deprived quintile overall. Guildhall Ward, where the Groves and Door 84 are located, is within this quintile.

The Indices of Multiple Deprivation for Guildhall Ward

Guildhall Ward performs worse than York Overall across the seven IMD domains. This is the most significant in the domains of Education, Skills and Training and Living Environment.

Table: 2018/2019 IMD score

Domain	York Overall	Guildhall Ward (Score/Ranking*)	
Income	0.07	0.08	6
Employment	0.06	0.06	6
Education, Skills and Training	15.7	21.15	4
Health, Deprivation and Disability	-0.32	0.16	3
Crime	-0.82	-0.16	3
Barriers to Housing and Services	15.87	16.76	7
Living Environment	18.29	30.23	3
Overall IMD	11.73	16.38	3
Income Deprivation Affecting Children (IDACI)	0.14	0.1	4
Income Deprivation Affecting Older People (IDAOPI)	0.16	0.09	3

\*Ranking out of the 21 wards that make up York Overall.

(Office for National Statistics, 2024)

Economic activity

According to the latest census data (Office for National Statistics, 2024), 48.6%\* of people in Guildhall were either economically active but unemployed (5.9%) or economically inactive (42.7%). Of those who were not in employment, nearly thirty percent (29.5%) had worked in the twelve months prior to the census, 45% had not worked in the twelve months prior, and just over a quarter had never worked (25.5%) (ibid). When compared to the York Ward Average, there was a greater percentage of people in Guildhall claiming Universal Credit who were out of work (City of York Council Business Intelligence Hub, 2022).

\*of people aged 16 years and over

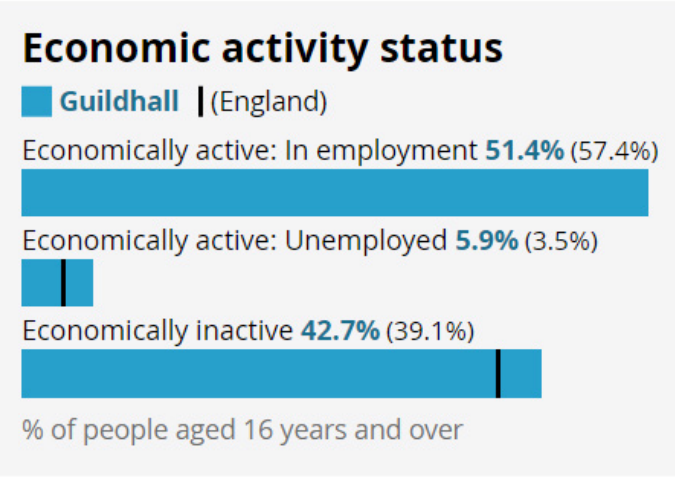


Figure (9): Distribution of population by economic activity status in Guildhall using 2021 Census data (Office for National Statistics, 2024).



Figure (10): Distribution of population by employment history in Guildhall using 2021 Census data (Office for National Statistics, 2024).

Of those who are in employment, 61.9% were in full-time work, and 38.1% were in part-time work (Office for National Statistics, 2021). According to census data, 87.4% of residents in Guildhall Ward had a Level 1-4 qualification or above, and 4.4% of residents had an apprenticeship or other qualification (Office for National Statistics, 2021). 8.1% of residents reported having no qualifications. The percentage of full-time students in Guildhall was nearly five times higher (36.6% of respondents) than in the English population estimate (7.7%) (ibid).

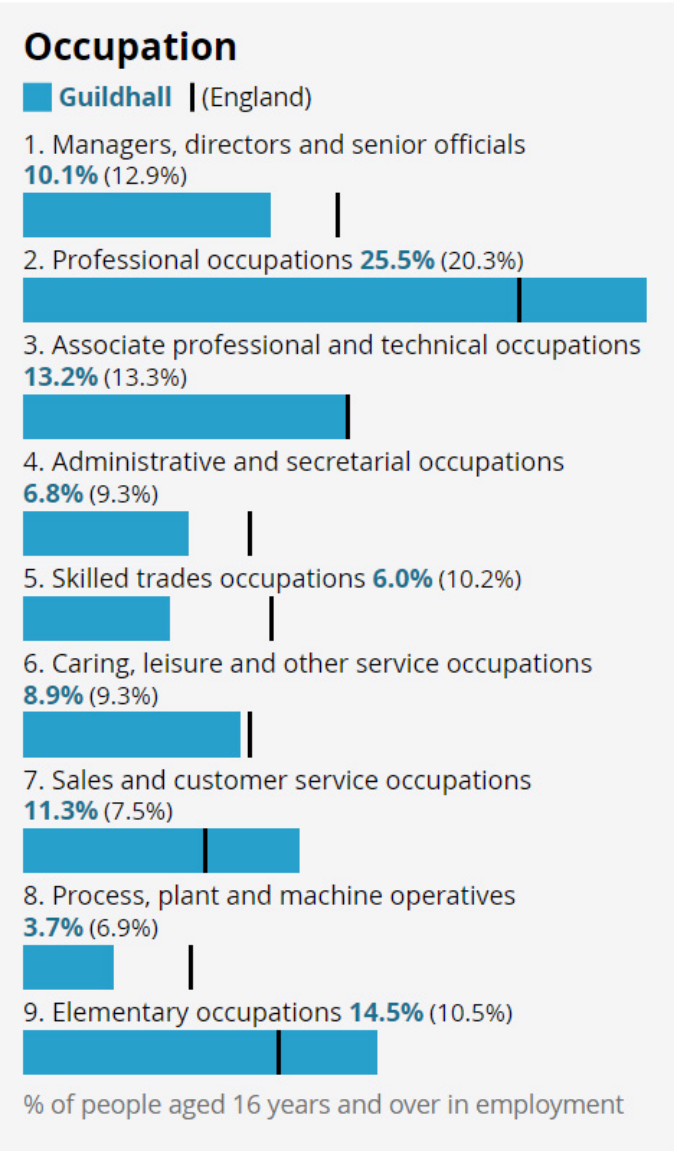
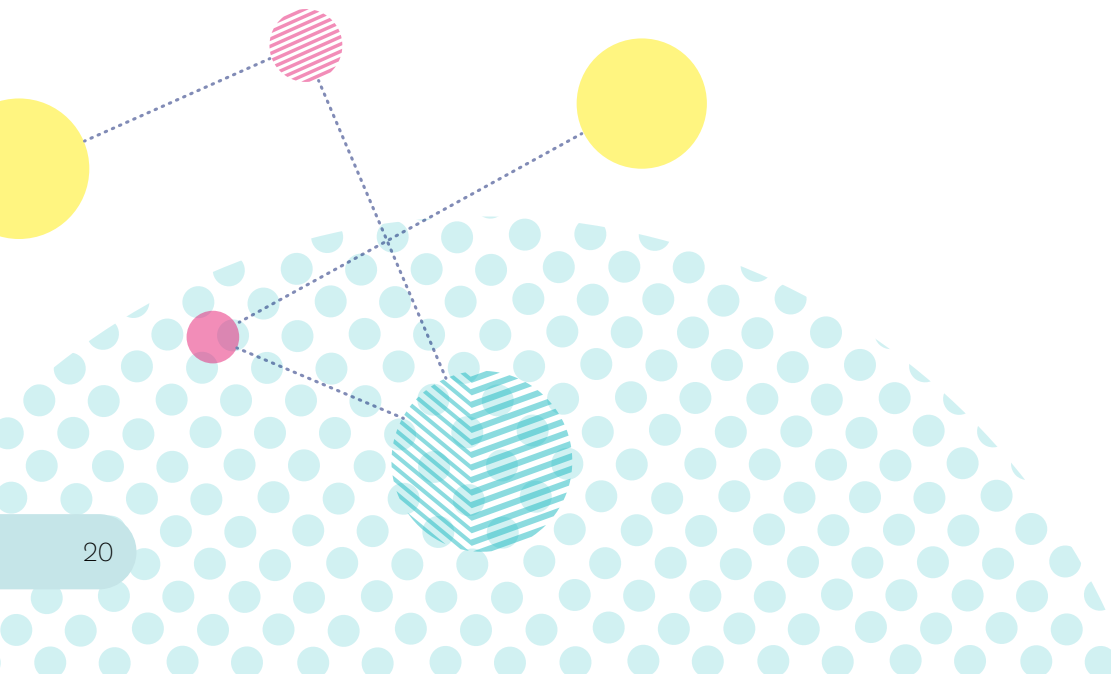


Figure (11): Distribution of population by employment history in Guildhall using 2021 Census data (Office for National Statistics, 2021)





Compared to the York Ward Average, fewer people in Guildhall agreed that jobs in York matched their skills and qualifications, and fewer people agreed that the council was supporting employability in the city (City of York Council Business Intelligence Hub, 2019).

Guildhall was identified as an area of concern for all three measures and is in the bottom five wards for the job creation measure.

Measure	Best Ward in York	Worst Ward in York	York Ward Average	Guildhall Ward
Universal credit (Out of Work) claimants	1.10%	4.20%	1.89%	2.10%
Residents who agree the council and its partners are helping to create jobs in the city	63.64%	13.64%	36.49%	25.93%
Residents who agree their skills and qualifications are suited to jobs in York	87.50%	16.67%	48.47%	43.48%

(City of York Council Business Intelligence Hub, 2022)

Earnings gap

Table 4: Earnings Gap in York (Source: Office for National Statistics)									
	2021	2021	2021	2022	2022	2022	2023	2023	2023
	Median Full-Time Weekly Wage	25th Percentile	Earnings Gap	Median Full-Time Weekly Wage	25th Percentile	Earnings Gap	Median Full-Time Weekly Wage	25th Percentile	Earnings Gap
York	£637.9	£443.2	£194.7	£622.2	£458.0	£164.2	£668.7	£516.5	£152.2
Yorkshire and the Humber	£563	£424.5	£138.5	£588.1	£454.9	£133.2	£630.8	£491.3	£139.5
England	£613.3	£456.8	£156.5	£648.2	£484.4	£163.8	£683.5	£519.6	£163.9
UK	£609.8	£453.9	£155.9	£641.8	£480.8	£161	£681.7	£518.5	£163.2

Figure (12): Earnings Gap in York using 2021 Census data (Office for National Statistics, 2023, cited in YHRCN, 2023)

The York Human Rights City Network reported that the earnings gap had reduced in York. The median full-time weekly wage increased to £668.70 in 2023, from £622.20 in 2022 (YHRCN, 2023). Low wages also increased from £458.00 to £516.50 during the same period (ibid). Although both the median wage and low wage were in line with national averages, the YHRCN indicates that median wages in York were increasing at a slower rate than regional and national averages

(YHRCN, 2023). There was also a significant reduction in the earnings gap from 2021 to 2023, with the earnings gap in York falling below the national average by 2023. However, YHRCN suggested that this was due to the slower rate of growth in the median wage in York. Despite being one of the more affluent cities in the region, York had a higher disparity between median and low wages than the rest of the Yorkshire and the Humber between 2021 and 2023 (ibid).

Poverty and deprivation

Guildhall ward is the third most deprived ward in York. In 2020, 16.8% of children under 16 lived in families whose reported income was less than 60% of the UK median income (CYC Business Intelligence Hub, 2022). The Office for National Statistics estimated that the UK median household income was £29,900 in 2020 (Office for National Statistics, 2021). Research by the York Human Rights City Network (YHRCN) demonstrated that there is a link between living in a low-income household and experiencing immediate and long-term consequences such as poor health and wellbeing, poorer educational attainment and employment outcomes, and social isolation (YHRCN, 2019). In 2019, the YHRCN estimated that more than twice as many children were living in poverty in the Hull Road and Guildhall wards as there were in Haxby & Wiggington and Derwent (ibid). Although they reported in 2023 that child poverty has decreased in York since 2019, YHRCN estimates that this reduction was larger in York Outer, than in York Central (YHRCN, 2023).

In the York Central constituency (in which Guildhall sits), 16.5% of households live in fuel poverty, and 50.5% of homes received support from the UK government (NEA, 2024). A household is considered to be experiencing fuel poverty if it has:

Low energy efficiency- properties with an energy efficiency rating in band D, E, F, or G.

Low income- if disposable income after energy costs would be below the official poverty line

Research by The York Policy Engine at the University of York demonstrates that fuel poverty compounds the impact of other cost-of-living concerns (Snell et al, 2024) and that the growing scale of energy debt has led households to restrict their energy usage to unsustainable levels. They also report that fuel poverty, specifically in relation to heating homes, has significant implications for public health (ibid). Across a range of indicators such as mental health, illness linked to cold temperatures, and infant health, fuel poverty is linked to poorer outcomes and increased NHS spending (Snell et al, 2024). In addition, rising energy costs and energy related debts are cited alongside high rents and increasing food bills as significant risk factors for homelessness (Crisis, 2022).

Guildhall ward was identified as an area of concern and is in the bottom five wards for both measures. Compared against the York Ward Average, Guildhall has a higher percentage of households who experience fuel poverty, and children living in low-income families. It is important to consider that these measures are also likely to intersect, and that children who live in low-income families are likely to experience fuel poverty.

Measure	Best Ward in York	Worst Ward in York	York Ward Average	Guildhall Ward
Fuel poverty (households)	6.23%	15.33%	8.39%	10.35%
Children (aged 0-15) living in low-income families	6.90%	21.90%	11.88%	16.80%

(City of York Council Business Intelligence Hub, 2022)



Foodbank Use

Data from the Trussell Trust indicates that in York, foodbank usage has doubled over the past five years. The distribution centre provided 8,846 food parcels last year, compared with 4,026 five years ago (Minion, 2024). These figures only represented food parcels that were distributed by the Trussell Trust, and did not account for other smaller community pantries or food distribution initiatives. Of those who were referred to Trussell Trust foodbanks in 2023:

- 69% reported that they are disabled, whereas only 26% of the general population reported a disability
- 86% lived in rented accommodation, compared to 22% of the general population
- 89% were receiving means-tested benefits

(Trussell Trust, 2023, in YHRCN, 2023).

People who were seeking asylum and people who had experience of the care system were amongst other populations that were also over-represented in the foodbank statistics.

A report by FareShare corroborated these findings, whilst arguing that other groups are also more likely than the general population to experience food insecurity:

- People from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups
- Households with more than 5 members
- Households with children (especially lone parent households)
- Households with lower educational qualifications
- People experiencing homelessness
- (Fareshare, 2024)

The below shows the income sources of those who use Trussell Trust facilities in York. The graph demonstrates that although the majority of visitors did not work and were on full-time benefits, referrals were also made for people who worked full-time (The Trussell Trust, 2023, in Minion, 2024).

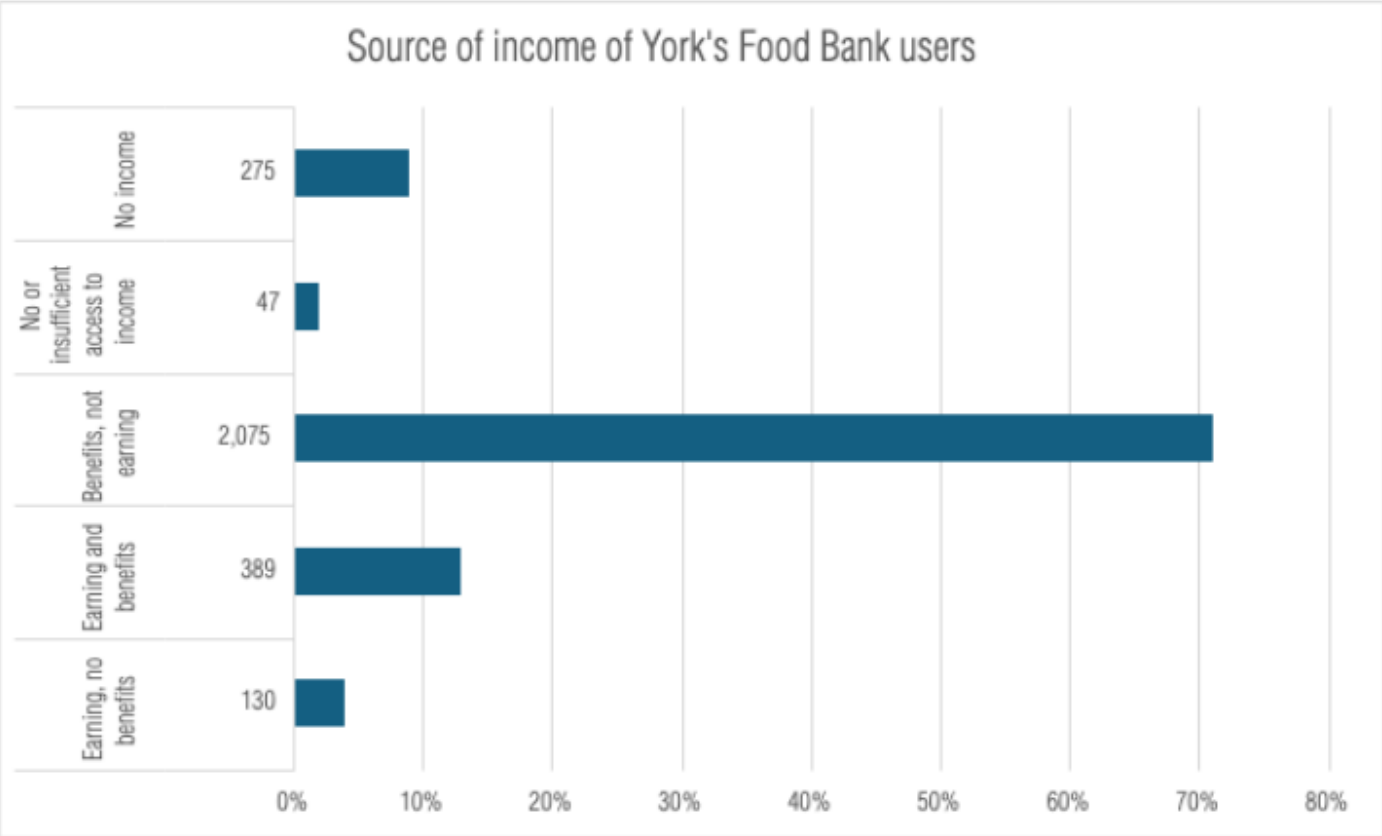


Figure (13): Source of income of York’s Food Bank users (The Trussell Trust, 2023 in Minion, 2024)

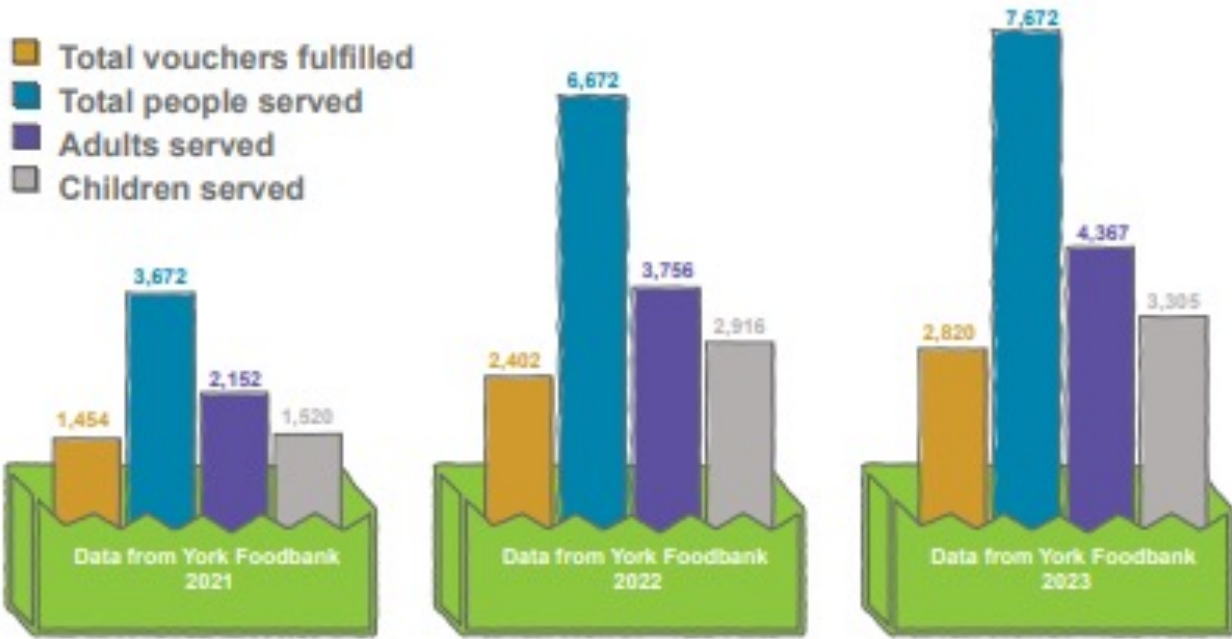


Figure (14) Annual usage for York Foodbank (York Foodbank, 2023, in YHRCN, 2023).

The above graphic shows the annual usage statistics for York Foodbank. The graph shows year on year increases across the number of vouchers fulfilled and the number of people served. Notably, of the 7,672 people served by York Foodbank in 2023, 43% (3,305) were children (York Foodbank, 2023, in YHRCN, 2023).

It is also worth noting that Trussell Trust services require users to receive a referral from local authorities or organisations, and that the actual number of people using community pantries or initiatives such as Fareshare is likely to be higher.

Public Health

Overall childhood obesity rates in York are lower than the national average (City of York Council, 2024a). Despite this, there are substantial disparities in the childhood obesity rates across wards. When compared to the York ward average, there are greater percentages of obese children in both Reception year and Year Six in Guildhall. Between reception and Year Six, the prevalence of obesity doubles, in line with both the worst ward figure and the York Ward average. Childhood obesity in Guildhall is identified as an area of concern (City of York Council Business Intelligence Hub, 2022). The York Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy indicates that these statistics are continuing to increase annually and recognizes deprivation and access to food infrastructures as key determinants (2022).

Across genders, the life expectancy in Guildhall was lower than in the Best Ward in York in 2020. For men, the difference was 6.7 years, and for women, the difference was 4.9 years. Women still have a greater life expectancy than men, but this also was below the York Ward Average (City of York Council Business

Intelligence Hub, 2022). According to the YHRCN, the life expectancy in Guildhall Ward decreased, to 79.0 for men, and 82.92 for women. The life expectancy gap increased, with men living for eight years longer, and women living for nearly nine years longer, in the number one Ward (Copmanthorpe) than in Guildhall (YHRCN, 2023). Not only is Guildhall amongst the six wards with the worst projected life expectancy, but it is also amongst the worst six wards for other deprivation indicators. It is in the top six wards with both the highest proportion of Universal Credit claims, and the highest number of schoolchildren who are eligible for free school meals (ibid).

Across the city, the life expectancy disparity increased further for some social groups. Data from the York Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy in 2022 indicated that across York, people with a severe mental illness or with a learning disability were more likely die at a younger age- “sixty three percent of people with learning disabilities die before reaching the age of 65, compared to 15 percent in the general population, and in York you are four times more likely to die before the age of 75 if you have a severe mental illness” (2022; 37).

Emergency hospital admissions for coronary heart disease were higher in Guildhall. The Health Survey for England demonstrated that the likelihood of having high blood pressure was thirty percent higher in the most deprived areas than in the least deprived areas (Roderick, 2024).

Covid vaccine uptake (as of 24/01/2022) is significantly lower in Guildhall, across all three vaccination opportunities. There are significantly lower booster uptake rates in Guildhall than in the York Ward Average.

According to York Healthwatch, healthcare users across the York area reported concerns about difficulties in making appointments and communicating with healthcare providers, long waiting times and the lack of availability of local appointments. They also expressed concerns about the inaccessibility of healthcare information and services to people without digital access, and the lack of communication around routine healthcare and services such as vaccines (Healthwatch, 2024a). Furthermore, Healthwatch reported receiving feedback about shortages of essential medications, inaccessibility of support for complex mental health issues, and long waiting times for social care support (ibid).

An area for concern that was not included in the Guildhall Ward Profile was the specific health challenges that were faced by migrants in the City of York. Door 84's Community Pantry offers support to many underrepresented social groups, including refugees and asylum seekers, who may benefit from additional healthcare support. In a recent report, Healthwatch reported that discrimination, a lack of access to NHS services, a lack of translators and interpreters, and an inability to provide continuity of care were all key concerns for refugees and asylum seekers who sought healthcare in York (Healthwatch, 2024b).

Measure	Best Ward in York	Worst Ward in York	York Ward Average	Guildhall Ward
Reception year obesity	5%	13.04%	9.46%	11.76%
Year 6 obesity	7.69%	26.32%	16.18%	20.00%
Male life expectancy (years)*	86.2	76.0	80.5	79.5
Female life expectancy (years)*	88.2	80.0	84.0	83.3
Emergency hospital admissions for coronary heart disease	80.9%	158.3%	112.8%	116.8%
Covid vaccination rate (including 12–15-year-olds)- First dose	93.27%	64.96%	84.92%	68.90%
Second dose	89.85%	62.08%	80.65%	67.00%
Booster	79.46%	80.65%	66.63%	51.5%

\*Predicted life expectancy for 2019/2020.

(City of York Council Business Intelligence Hub, 2022)

Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

When compared to the York ward average, the number of crimes per 1,000 members of the population was 3.4 times higher in Guildhall in 2021/2022. Guildhall had the highest crime rate of the 21 wards. The number of antisocial behaviour incidents per 1,000 members of the population is also 3 times higher. There is a significant difference in the percentage of Guildhall residents who agree that crime is not a problem in their area, and who agree that York is a safe place to live. Crime and antisocial behaviour in Guildhall have been identified as areas of concern, and Guildhall Ward is in the bottom five wards across three of the crime measures.

Measure	Best Ward in York	Worst Ward in York	York Ward Average	Guildhall Ward
Crime rate (per 1,000 population)*	3.6	46.2	13.6	46.2
Anti-Social Behaviour rate (per 1,000 population)*	0.5	14.1	4.7	13.9
Residents who think that hate crime is not a problem in their local area	100%	50%	75.77%	57.14%
Residents who agree that York is a safe city to live in	95.24%	50%	73.89%	67.86%

\*Data for 2021/2022

(City of York Council Business Intelligence Hub, 2022)

According to a Freedom of Information Request for the North Yorkshire Police, The Groves and Guildhall had the highest number of recorded hate crimes between 01 November 2022 and 31 October 2023 within the City of York (North Yorkshire Police, 2024).

Area	Count
Acomb	15
Clifton	31
Derwent	2
Dringhouses and Woodthorpe	8
Fishergate	18
Fulford	5
Guildhall inner	88
Haxby and Wiggington	7
Heslington and University	7
Heworth	24
Holgate	20
Hull Road	17
Huntington and New Earswick	21
Micklegate Inner	9
Micklegate Outer	34
Osbalwick	2
Rural West York	3
Skelton, Rawcliffe and Clifton Without	8
Strensall	5
The Groves	10
Westfield	40
Total	374

(North Yorkshire Police, 2024)

Racially aggravated hate crimes were the most prevalent across York for the period between November 2022 and October 2023, with 189 recorded incidents. Homophobic incidents were the second most prevalent, with 76 recorded incidents, and disability related incidents were the third most prevalent, with 38 recorded incidents (North Yorkshire Police, 2024).

In July 2022, a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) was placed on The Groves and Union Terrace, for three years, under Section 59 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (City of York Council, 2024b). The purpose of this PSPO was to give the local authority and the police powers to prevent anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the area. The City of York Council identified the consumption of alcohol and anti-social behaviour as two activities that were seen to have a persistent negative impact on residents in the area. Furthermore, the PSPO granted the police or local authority the power to remove groups of 3 or more to prevent further ASB from taking place(ibid).

Public Infrastructure

Road infrastructure in Guildhall is somewhat worse than the York Ward Average, particularly in relation to the worst road areas (Grade 5- Structurally Impaired). This has been identified as an area for concern, and Guildhall is in the bottom five wards in terms of the proportion of road area that is ranked at Grade 5.

Measure	Best Ward in York	Worst Ward in York	York Ward Average	Guildhall Ward
Street cleaning- number of litter issues reported	N/A	N/A	11.0%	31.0%
Street cleaning- number of faeces issues reported	N/A	N/A	7.7%	18.0%
% of road area that is Grade 1 (Free from Defects)	37.34%	12.05%	19.83%	18.07%
% of road area that is Grade 5 (Structurally impaired)	5.25%	13.62%	10.14%	13.23%

(City of York Council Business Intelligence Hub, 2022)

In 2022, a permanent Traffic Order was implemented in the Groves, to address residents' concerns about traffic and air quality (City of York Council, 2022). The Groves is now considered to be a low traffic neighbourhood, with diversions in place to reduce the amount of car traffic, and to promote cycling and walking in the area. According to the City of York Council, the scheme also aimed to promote a better sense of community by reducing traffic and creating more opportunities for residents to socialise in the street (ibid).

Schools and Educational Attainment

According to the City of York Council, catchment areas for the following schools are in Guildhall Ward:

- Primary: Clifton Green, Fishergate, Haxby Road, Park Grove, St. Lawrence's CE Academy and Tang Hall.
- Secondary: Archbishop Holgate's CE, Vale of York Academy, Fulford Secondary and Joseph Rowntree.

(City of York Council Business Intelligence Hub, 2022)

Twice as many primary school pupils claim Free School meals in Guildhall Ward as the York Ward Average. Nearly one and a half times as many Secondary school pupils claim Free School meals in Guildhall Ward. In the York Local Authority, there are 23,093 students who are considered for the Pupil Premium. Of these 17.3%, or 4,006 pupils, are disadvantaged according to the DFE definition (Children, Culture and Communities Scrutiny Committee, 2024). Across all of the Reading, Writing and Maths indicators for Key Stages 1,2, and 4, lower percentages of York's Disadvantaged cohort achieved the Expected Standard benchmarks than the National average (ibid, 2024).

At a Ward level, attainment is also an area for concern- Guildhall Ward is in the bottom five wards across both Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 attainment.

Measure	Best ward	Worst ward	York Ward Average	Guildhall Ward
Primary School Pupils claiming Free School Meals	N/A	N/A	13.70%	28.38%
Secondary School Pupils claiming Free School Meals	N/A	N/A	11.91%	17.00%
Key Stage 2 Attainment	89.29%	50.68%	69.13%	62.50%
Key Stage 4 Attainment	100%	59.68%	75.81%	61.90%

(City of York Council Business Intelligence Hub, 2022)

Connectivity

When compared to the York ward average, Guildhall has slower internet download speeds and has less superfast broadband coverage. Connectivity has been identified as an area for concern across both measures, and Guildhall is in the bottom five wards for superfast infrastructure. YHRCN identifies digital exclusion as a driver of other forms of social inequality, such as isolation and poor mental health outcomes (YHRCN, 2022). These forms of inequality begin with poor infrastructural access but are made worse by the cost of digital equipment, and by a lack of digital literacy or confidence (ibid). As a cost-saving measure, many organisations are moving their resources and services online, which risks further excluding residents without digital resources or skills. YHRCN identifies the 'Right to Accessible Information' as a key challenge for the city (YHRCN, 2022). Furthermore, a study by the University of York found that digital exclusion significantly impacts the most vulnerable populations, such as 'older people with severe mental ill health' (Spanakis, in University of York, 2022).

Measure	Best ward	Worst ward	York Ward Average	Guildhall Ward
Average download speed (Mb/s)	338.2	36.6	134.0	112.5
Superfast availability	97.84%	69.57%	89.74%	69.57%

(City of York Council Business Intelligence Hub, 2022)

Resident Engagement

When compared to the York ward average, residents in Guildhall ward are less satisfied with their living environment and sense of belonging overall. Fewer residents agree that their local area is a good environment for children and young people. This has been highlighted as an area of concern.

Measure	Best Ward in York	Worst ward in York	York Ward Average	Guildhall Ward
Residents satisfied with their local area as a place to live	100.%	52.94%	83.19%	79.31%
Residents who agree that they belong to their local area	93.33%	52.63%	76.14%	70.37%
Residents who agree their local area is a good place for children and young people to grow up	100%	43.75%	72.39%	57.14%
Residents who agree that they can influence decisions in their local area	42.86%	0.00%	22.68%	28.57%

(City of York Council Business Intelligence Hub, 2022)

Resident satisfaction and belonging are generally lower for Guildhall Ward than the York Ward average. However, a greater proportion of residents feel that they have a say in decision making in Guildhall, than in the city overall. There are a number of active civic organisations in Guildhall, such as The Groves Association. The Groves Community Plan was published in 2020, and identified five key themes: green spaces, community hub, health and wellbeing, movement network, and homes (City of York Council, 2020). Following consultation with residents of The Groves, the Community Plan was developed to emphasise a need to develop the physical infrastructure of The Groves as a means of fostering community growth (ibid).



## Cultural Engagement

In cities such as York, heritage is vital to the local economy and to community wellbeing. Through the promotion of tourist activities, cultural engagement is often seen as a draw for visitors. However, the 'Being Well Together' report demonstrates that cultural activities are also significant for local people, and that engagement with heritage promotes a sense of belonging for residents (Hill-Dixon et al, 2018). Throughout their study, participants raised concerns about "accessibility, inclusivity and affordability" as barriers to their interactions with culture (Hill-Dixon et al, 2018; 41). Therefore, whilst city strategies promote culture, leisure and heritage to be available for everyone, there needs to be further consideration of the obstacles to participation for residents from low-income backgrounds.

## Conclusion

Analysis of local data demonstrates the challenges that are faced by Guildhall ward as one of the most deprived council wards in York. In presenting these findings, we make the case that Guildhall ward, and specifically, The Groves, are 'left behind' in local policy, and that these missed opportunities result in poorer economic and social outcomes for residents of the area. Examination of local profiles demonstrates that the ward faces significant disadvantages in comparison to other, more affluent wards. Mapped against the APPG's nine dimensions of deprivation, it becomes evident that The Groves meets many of these criteria, and in particular, experiences higher rates of poverty, lower educational attainment, and poorer overall health outcomes. The report proposes that local initiatives should cultivate The Groves' existing social infrastructure to further develop the community's resilience to deprivation, and to address the root causes of economic and social inequality.

Therefore, community spaces such as Door84 are vital resources through which people are supported to make connections with the wider community and participate in civic life. The APPG demonstrates that existing infrastructure can be developed to enhance neighbourhood capacity-building through initiatives that connect local people with the services that they need (Local Trust/ OCSI, 2024). However, this is dependent upon access to local funding and long-term, sustainable partnerships with specialised services. For organisations such as Door 84, the provision of additional community resources presents both an exciting opportunity and a significant challenge.

## The Research

### Ethics

The project was granted ethical approval by York St John School of Education, Language and Psychology and School of Humanities Ethics Committees. Ethical approval was sought in stages: 1) outline approval for whole project (code ETH2324-0009) including statistical work, working with staff, and talking to young people about becoming young researchers, and ethnographic observations in youth groups, 2) specific approval for work with Community Sparks and Community Cafe and Community Pantry (code ETH2324-0112), 3) approval to bring Charlene Clempson on board for the games and mural projects (code ETH2324-0298), 4) approval to bring the student illustrators on to the research team (code ETH2324-0359). Once the ethics committees are convinced of a research team's plans for participatory and community research and their ethical understanding, York St John allows for a project to develop without every stage being detailed and approved by the committee and the individual researchers can provide approval to sub projects as long as we stay within the values, and ethos of the project; therefore, individual projects devised by young people gained ethical approval through Charlotte and Isobel.

Due to the nature of the work, confidentiality was not generally promised as much of the work was cocreated and authorship within the community is important. This was made clear throughout the project to all participants. The research team worked closely with Door 84 to ensure that safeguarding needs were always met with regards to identification of people. It was generally considered that the data being provided was not high risk and did not require anonymising in most cases. Having said that, some projects didn't require names, such as young researcher's surveys.

Whilst many of our participants may be considered "vulnerable" we chose to take an agency first approach and assume that participants were able to consent themselves. However, for young people we provided parents and carers with information and allowed parents to opt out if they wished but no one did.





## Research with youth groups (Isobel Clare and Charlotte Haines Lyon)

The youth groups we attended included the 8-17 group on Monday early evenings, the 16-25 group on Monday late evenings, and the 13-17 group on Wednesday evenings. The number of young people varied each week, with the 8-17 group typically being best attended and the 16-25 group typically being smallest. Each session has a new activity each week, as well as some food on offer. The two earlier youth groups (8-17 on Monday and 13-17 on Wednesday) typically had multiple activities offered across multiple rooms, including some form of craft and physical activity. Each youth group is run by two staff and several volunteers, with most volunteers attending the Wednesday session, and fewest at the 16-25 Monday evening session. It is noticeable that the volunteers are also complimented by students on placements from both universities in York.

Following the project aims, it was important to ensure that the young people who attended the youth sessions at Door 84 were at the centre of this research project. To facilitate this, Charlotte and Isobel regularly attended the youth sessions between December 2023 and February 2023 to get to know the young people and build trusting relationships with them. This 'getting to know you' phase also enabled us to explain the project and its aims to a wide range of young people who attended the sessions, which helped us expand our pool of potential young researchers. Between February and April 2024, we worked with young people in each youth session to co-design a number of research projects including online surveys, a suggestion box, suggestion boards, mapping exercises, and interviews. Alongside these youth researcher projects, Charlotte and Isobel undertook an ethnographic observation of the youth sessions.

Some young researchers worked in pairs or groups, whilst others worked on their research projects on their own. As the young researchers developed their ideas, Charlotte and Isobel guided discussions around research ethics and methods of data collection to support the young researchers in designing ethical projects. For example, the young researcher group who designed the suggestion boards were keen to write

their own information sheet for participants. This was framed by our questions to the young people, which included: who should be able to participate? would their answers be anonymous? did the young people at the session have to participate in the project? We discussed each question, and the young researchers chose the phrasing of the information sheet to ensure this would make sense to their peers. The young researchers emphasised the need for this information sheet to contain enough information that other young people would understand the research but that it was not too long so they would all read it. We had more detailed information to hand, should any young people be interested. The young researchers also wanted the information sheet to be colourful and engaging, and selected the image of multi-coloured people standing together to emphasise that everyone was welcome to take part in their suggestion board exercise and said this was what Door 84 would look like when imagined as a big family. The resulting information sheet that was displayed on the suggestion boards can be found in Appendix 1.

Young people were not required to participate in the youth researcher projects, or to be youth researchers, and they were able to drop in and out of the activities as they wished. As researchers, we understood that the youth sessions were the young people's space, and we worked to ensure the research was an optional activity. The youth researchers often engaged with their projects for a few minutes at a time in between enjoying other aspects of the youth sessions.

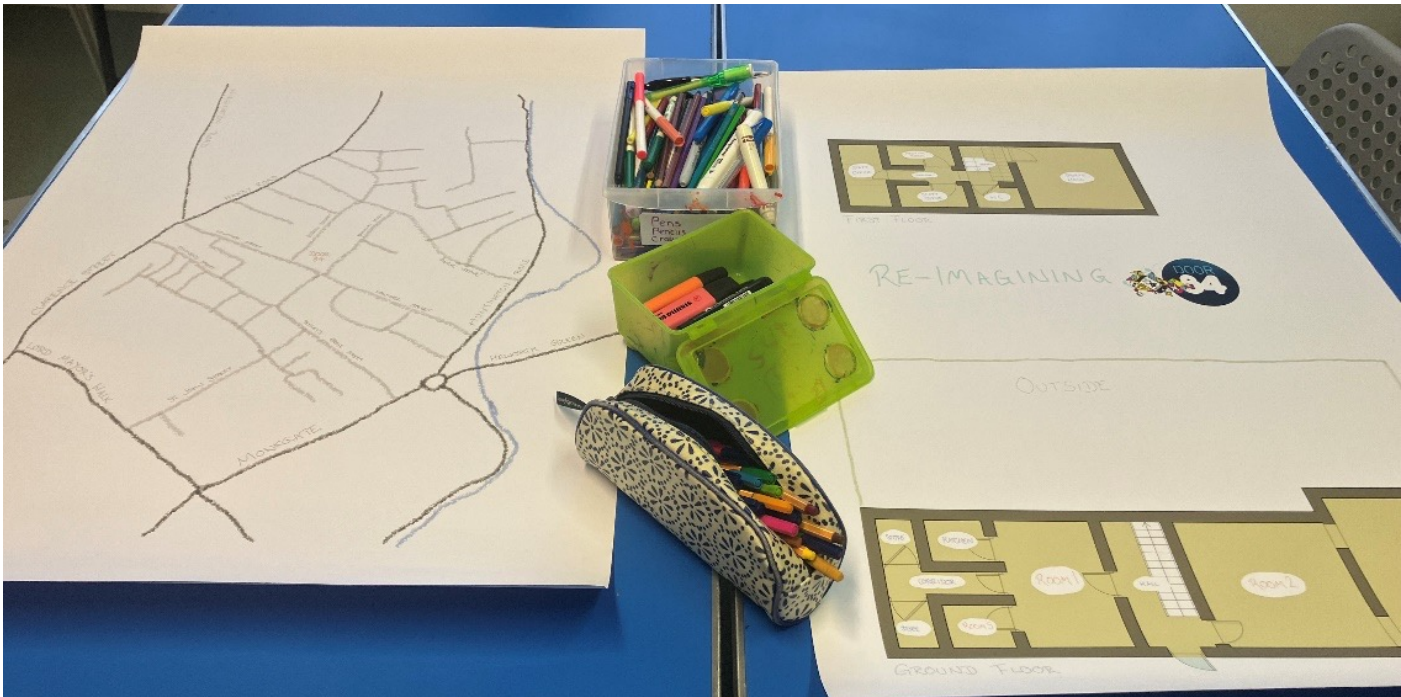


Figure (15): photograph showing a mapping exercise set up in a Youth Session (Researcher Photograph)

### Data collection

#### Mapping exercises

One of the projects the young researchers co-designed with us was a mapping exercise. Whilst discussing the research project with the three youth groups the young researchers were all interested in the idea of carrying out mapping exercises. They decided on three different maps, one of the whole of York, one of the Groves, and one of Door 84. Together, we decided that Isobel would create the maps and then bring drafts in for the young researchers to make suggestions for change. Once the youth researchers were happy with the maps, we printed A1 versions of these and brought them to the three youth groups.

On the maps of York and the Groves the young people marked areas that were important to them and drew pictures such as smiley faces to indicate how they felt about areas. On the map of Door 84, young people drew pictures about what they enjoyed about Door 84, how they felt about Door 84, and what they imagined the future of Door 84 might look like. Many young people across all three groups took part in this activity, set up as the above photograph shows.

#### Online surveys

Three online surveys were created by two youth researchers. One youth researcher who attended the Monday 8-17 and Wednesday 13-17 group created two online surveys targeted at teachers and secondary-school-aged young people. Another youth researcher who attended the Monday 16-25 group created an online survey aimed at 16-25-year-olds. As decided by the youth researchers, the surveys were advertised by the youth researchers, as well as sent out by Door 84 staff, and the teacher survey was posted to NextDoor.

The survey aimed at teachers focused on gaining an understanding of what local teachers knew about Door 84 and what they would like to see Door 84 offer for young people and the community going forward. This survey received two responses.

The survey aimed at secondary-school-aged young people focused on understanding what young people knew about Door 84, if they had previously attended, and what would make them want to attend in the future. The young researcher wanted to keep this survey brief to help ensure young people would fill this out, however this survey received one response. The young researcher was inspired to devise the survey due to friends not knowing what Door 84 was and thinking it was a children's home.

The survey aimed at 16-25-year-olds was designed to gain a greater understanding of young people's knowledge about local youth services, what they look for from a youth service, and whether they had heard of Door 84. This survey received two responses.



Suggestion box and suggestion boards

Youth researchers at the Wednesday 13-17 group decided to create suggestion boards to capture the thoughts of the young people who attended their session. They were interested in finding out about what young people thought about Door 84 as it was, and what they would like to see change in the future. The youth researchers decided to run two suggestion boards on consecutive weeks. The first week they asked the question “What do you enjoy about Door 84?” and recruited 9 young people to add to their suggestion board which reflected the majority of those in attendance. The second week they asked the question “What would you change about Door 84?” and recruited 10 young people to add to their suggestion board, which similarly reflected a majority of those in attendance. In the second week, the youth researchers also recruited a member of staff and a volunteer to contribute to their suggestion board.

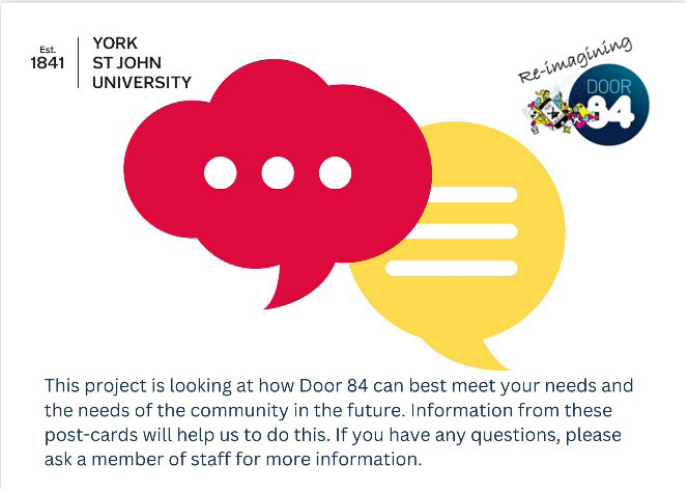


Figure (16): Post-card survey co-created with youth researchers.

A youth researcher from the Monday 8-17 group decided to create a suggestion box with postcards that would be in Door 84 at all times for anyone visiting to fill out. The youth researcher co-created the design for the suggestion box and the postcards. They chose to make the suggestion-box look like a post-box and created a Door 84 logo to go on this. The youth researcher decided on the colours for the postcards, going with “friendly” colours, and chose to stick to three questions on the postcards to help ensure they were easy to read and quick to fill in for anyone attending Door 84. Three people filled out the postcards before the suggestion box was reused for another activity. This is the design of the suggestion postcards:

What would you change about Door 84? Would you change or add any activities, events, or anything about the building?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Which session do you attend? Please tick all that apply.

<input type="checkbox"/> Youth group: Monday (8-17)	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Sparks: Tuesday
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth group: Monday (16-25)	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Sparks: Thursday
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth group: Tuesday (8-12)	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Cafe: Friday
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth group: Thursday (13-17)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

Interviews

Youth researchers in the Monday 8-17 group decided to interview other young people, staff and volunteers, as well as external community members and local stakeholders. The youth researchers co-designed questions for each group of people and decided who to invite. As the interviews went on over several weeks, the number of young people interested in becoming youth researchers and undertaking interviews grew to five. Two of the youth researchers who joined this youth researcher project later decided to use the interview questions written by the other youth researchers. The youth researchers practiced interviews on Isobel and ensured all participants had been over the co-created consent form and information letter before undertaking interviews. All interviews were undertaken with either Isobel or Charlotte present to support the youth researchers.

The youth researchers interviewed three young people, one young person who also volunteered at Door 84, three staff members at Door 84, five members of

the York City Council (including the now former Lord Mayor), one probation worker, two community members and two senior academics from York St John University. Many of these interviewees were interviewed twice by different young researchers/young researcher teams. Interviews typically lasted between three and ten minutes. Some interviews were undertaken with one or two youth researchers asking questions and one interviewee, and others were undertaken with multiple interviewees. Four of the councillors were interviewed together, two members of staff were interviewed together, and two young people were interviewed together. Where interviewees were interviewed in groups this was decided by interviewee and youth researcher preference.

A short video of some of the interviews, highlighting the key themes from the research, is available here: <https://tinyurl.com/3wrznn66>



Figure (17): video compilation of youth researcher interviews.

Ethnographic methods

Charlotte and Isobel took notes on impressions from youth sessions after attending and observing interactions between young people, volunteers, staff, and external visitors. Keeping these fieldwork notes allowed Charlotte and Isobel to reflect together on key experiences and themes they had noted during the sessions in a reflexive discussion.

## Data analysis

Charlotte and Isobel used thematic analysis to identify common themes amongst responses across the various data collected by youth researcher projects and from their ethnographic observations. By analysing these independently and then coming together to check discuss analysis we were able to develop clear themes. The various subthemes were then organised into overarching themes of Creating Community, Enjoying Food, More Advertising, More Door 84, and More Inclusivity.

Once this initial analysis had taken place between York St John University researchers, Charlotte and Isobel, we created a short report for the youth researchers to review. During discussions of the youth research projects, the youth researchers indicated they would like to see the analysis and have an opportunity to go over this. Youth researchers reviewing the analysis and discussing the findings to ensure we had a shared understanding of the findings of the analysis enabled us to continue to meet our project aims.

## Findings

### Creating Community

Participants across the youth researcher projects emphasised the importance of Door 84 as a space that facilitated the building of community. During mapping exercises and in interviews the young people who shared their views emphasised how they had made friends through Door 84 and grown in confidence through attending. Door 84 provides a positive, safe space for these young people. It was striking that the youth researchers chose to include questions on safety and young people's confidence in their interview question lists as they viewed these aspects of their experience at Door 84 as pivotal. Through our observational data, we noted that young people feel free to inhabit the space at Door 84 as their own, with oversight from youth session staff and volunteers. By providing a low-cost space for young people where they are able to be themselves and enjoy activities together in a safe environment, Door 84 youth sessions provide an important space for building positive local community. Indeed, one young person responded to the suggestion boards with this comment about Door 84:

Everybody can be a part of the community.

In the interviews with external stakeholders, interviewees emphasised the important role that Door 84 provides in bringing people together. These participants felt that Door 84 played a vital role in the maintenance and development of positive community within the Groves and more broadly within York. Those councillors who attended who were not from the local ward discussed how they wished they had a centre like Door 84 in their local area to bring community together, with one stating that Door 84 provided a "vital" service to the local community and young people.

An important element of creating this community was that Door 84 functioned as a central node connecting individuals with other vital local services. Young people came to Door 84 through various routes including school recommendations, word of mouth, and other services such as GPs referring them to the sessions. Staff and volunteer knowledge of local services also functioned as an informal information and advice service for young people and others attending.

### Enjoying Food

The enjoyment of food in youth sessions at Door 84 was a recurrent theme across the youth researcher project data and was clear from our observations. Young people drew pictures of food they enjoyed on the Door 84 map, explaining that it was a key part of their experience at Door 84. Food is important at Door 84 youth sessions as a means of socialising, developing life-skills, developing personal opinions and identities in a safe space, as well as practically feeding young people. Whilst we attended youth groups over several months, we observed young people building friendships whilst cooking and baking together and learning about food preparation in a fun environment. Further, discussions about food preferences were common and young people were keen to share their opinions and discover those of others around them, including us as researchers. Food functioned as a way to get to know others and to develop friendships. For example, a discussion on how to pronounce the word 'scone' provoked two young people who were new to attending to go round most of the attendees of the youth session asking them for their opinion, speaking to new people and building friendships, and as a low-stakes way to express different opinions to staff and researchers.

As well as performing important social functions, the food provided at the youth sessions was important as an evening meal for young people. The young people at Door 84 are able to attend for £1 and typically are offered a hot meal and snacks as well as over an hour of activities at each session. As noted in the section on local context, those visiting Door 84 are primarily visiting from the most disadvantaged wards, and by providing low-cost food Door 84 performs an important function in feeding young people from the most disadvantaged local areas.

### More Advertising

A recurring theme across all the data sets from the youth researcher projects was that participants felt Door 84 was not sufficiently well-known about. Young people and those who participated in the interviews felt that Door 84 had a lot to offer to young people and the broader community and wished more people could benefit from attending. Young people and interviewees felt the key barrier to others attending was a lack of awareness about what Door 84 is and what it can offer to the community. For example, one young person explained that a long-time local resident had believed Door 84 to be some kind of children's home before they explained that it was a youth and community centre.

To combat this lack of awareness of Door 84, participants suggested greater advertising of Door 84 the services it offers. One recurring suggestion

was that this could be done through reaching out to local organisations. The interviewees from the local community expressed a desire to be more involved with Door 84 and to see more collaboration between Door 84 and the Groves Association. Many young people were enthusiastic about greater advertising and wanted to create posters as adverts for Door 84. The young people explained that they feel strongly they would like more people to know about Door 84 as it plays an important role in the young people's lives, and they would like other people to benefit from this too.

### More Door 84

Following the aims of this project, one of the core questions we looked to answer was around the future of Door 84. When youth researchers investigated how people imagined the future of Door 84 an overwhelming number of participants indicated they would like to see more of the same at Door 84. Although there were some suggestions for change, such as more advertising as discussed above and greater inclusivity as discussed below, most participants suggested the major change they would like to see at Door 84 is for the service to expand.

Young people suggested they would like more sessions throughout the week and on the weekend so they can attend more regularly. They also enjoyed the arts and crafts and wanted to see more of these activities in the future. Young people also wanted more outdoor activities, and suggestions made during the mapping exercises included requests for more outdoor equipment such as bikes and swings. Young people also commented on how much they enjoyed the trips that Door 84 have run previously and expressed a desire for more of this, with this being one of the most common suggestions on the suggestion boards.

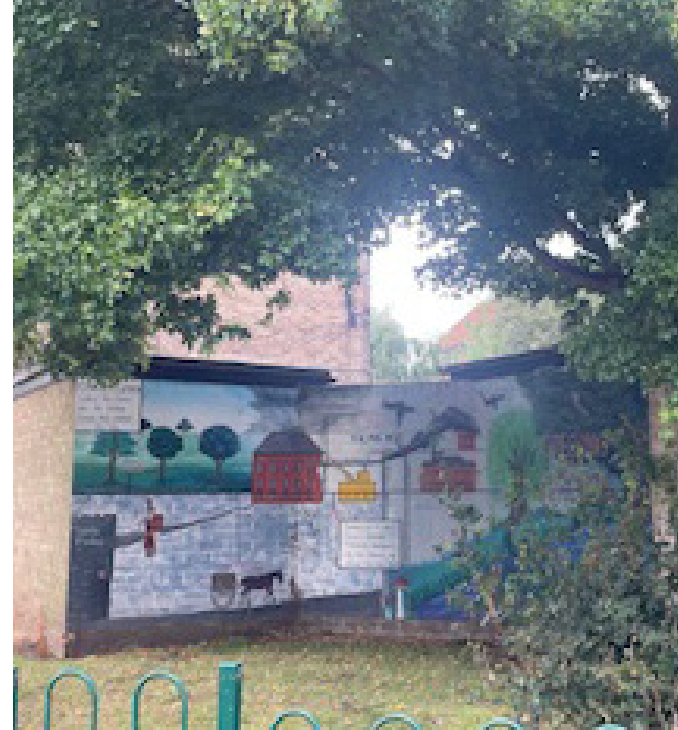
Beyond additional youth sessions, young people also suggested introducing more sessions for other community members. Introducing more sessions for young people and the wider community was also an important theme across the interviews with external stakeholders. That Door 84 is viewed as an important resource was emphasised through participants expressing the desire to increase the capacity and availability of the current work being undertaken at Door 84. One councillor summed this up well by commenting that they wished they wished they could create "more Door 84s" across York as replicating Door 84 in other areas would meet significant community needs.



## More Inclusivity

A final key theme from the youth project data was a desire to create more inclusive spaces for neurodiverse young people. Some young people suggested creating quiet(er) rooms or sessions throughout the week to provide a more accessible space for neurodiverse young people. The earlier Monday session is well attended and as a result often busy and loud, and this can sometimes also be the case at the Wednesday session. Several volunteers and external stakeholders have also highlighted the lack of provision for young neurodiverse people across York, including those who are not in mainstream education or who are homeschooled. Participants felt that Door 84 could play an important role in creating safe environments for neurodiverse young people to socialise and build community networks. Indeed, the later Monday session was described by some of the young people who attended as providing this space for them. As the later Monday session is only available to 16-25-year-olds, though, there is an opportunity to develop this provision for younger groups.

Young people explained that they wanted everybody to be able to benefit from Door 84 as they had and would like to see a future Door 84 that was accessible to everyone. The comments about and discussions of accessibility with young people were largely centred on their desire to increase the accessibility of the space in terms of creating quiet space and ensuring all people felt welcome, although some expressed a desire for ramps and lifts for wheelchair users. In the interviews with external stakeholders, there was more of an emphasis on enhancing the physical accessibility of the building as there are a number of spaces only accessible via stairs.



## Youth groups: key findings

1. Door 84 plays a vital role in bringing young people together to make new friends and gain in confidence in a safe environment that fosters the building of community.
2. Food is important in Door 84 youth sessions by creating a means of socialising, developing life-skills, developing opinions and identities in a safe space, as well as practically for feeding young people.
3. There is insufficient awareness of what Door 84 is and what it has to offer. With more awareness created through advertising, Door 84 could reach more people who would benefit from the services it offers.
4. When re-imagining the future of Door 84, participants wanted to see more of what Door 84 already offers rather than huge change. This includes more youth sessions, more trips, more arts and craft, and even expanding the service to create more Door 84's.
5. Door 84 could benefit underserved members of the community by becoming more accessible, particularly for neurodiverse young people.

## Youth groups: Recommendations.

### For Door 84:

1. To raise awareness of the services on offer at Door 84 by reaching out to local groups and using advertisements.
2. To consider increasing the number of youth sessions in a week and look for other opportunities to expand the service for other users and in other locations.
3. To develop the accessibility of Door 84 to enable greater use of the space by underserved members of the local community, with a particular emphasis on creating spaces that are inclusive for neurodiverse young people.

### For other partners:

1. For referring agencies to understand there is a cost to Door 84 for their referral and for Door 84 to explore how this value can be strategically valued.
2. For the universities to work more closely with Door 84 to a) develop better placement practices (there needs to be a limit on numbers of students) and b) less exploitative research practice especially with regards to dissertation projects.
3. For the new combined Local Authority to have a deeper understanding of the value of Door 84 to social provision.



## Research with Community Sparks (Tom Dobson)

The Community Sparks sessions at Door 84 takes place every Tuesday and Thursday morning and is open to adults with a range of support needs. All but 2 of the adults who regularly attend are accompanied by their carers. On Tuesday, the Community Sparks sessions involve adults and their carers doing arts and crafts activities; on Thursday, adults and their carers take part in a disco. On average, about 20 adults with support needs attend each Community Sparks session, with some variation in terms of who is in attendance.

In line with the project aims, we wanted to find what the adults really like about Door 84 and what they would like more of in the future. Due to a range of support needs within the group, the use of traditional research methods, such as interviews, to elicit the adults' views were deemed unsuitable. Instead, a mixture of ethnographic methods and arts-based research were deployed.

## Ethnographic methods

Between November 2023 and March 2024, I attended ten Tuesday morning sessions. The idea was to familiarise myself setting and to allow for the adults and their carers to become familiar with me being there.

At these sessions, I observed the actions and interactions of the adults and their carers, talking to them about what they were doing and what they liked doing. I made notes about this in a reflective journal and used these notes to inform the art-based research activity described below.

Once I had become a familiar face at the Tuesday morning session, I started asking adults and their carers more explicitly about what Community Sparks brought to their lives and how the offer could be developed in the future. I kept detailed notes of these conversations in my reflective journal.

## Arts-based research

Arts-based research is a broad, inclusive approach to research, through which marginalised groups, like those who attend Community Sparks, can express their feelings, perceptions and opinions. By liaising closely with the Community Sparks Lead, it was decided that a Tuesday arts and crafts session would provide the ideal opportunity to run an activity whereby adults and their carers could create a collage out of selected images to reflect what they like to do at Community Sparks and what they would like to do at Community Sparks.

For the collage, a range of images from ClipArt were selected. The selection of these images was carefully thought through - I drew upon the notes in my reflective journal and liaised closely with the Community Sparks Lead to select images that reflected the interests of the group. These interests were ultimately divided into seven broad categories: arts and crafts; music; games; performance; food and drink; socialising; and animals. Each adult (N=17) and their carer were given a colour print out of images related to the categories, a pair of scissors and a glue stick. I explained the task to them individually, asking them to cut and stick images reflecting what they liked doing on a large plain piece of paper.

## Data analysis

The reflective journal enabled me to reflect upon and analyse what was happening in the Community Sparks sessions on an ongoing and iterative basis. This meant that as I attended more Community Sparks sessions, I was to develop my understanding of how adults and their carers participated in the space, with key themes relating their participation emerging and then crystallising.

I analysed the collage using content analysis, tabulating the occurrence of each of the seven categories of images for each individual participant (N=17). This enabled me to aggregate the occurrence of activities for the group as a whole to identify which activities were most valued by the adults in Community Sparks. On an individual level, it also enabled me to compare the activities selected for the collage with notes I had made in my reflective journal about how individuals participated at Community Sparks.

## Ethical Research

The project is underpinned by the guiding principle of beneficence. Participants were able to articulate what they like about Community Sparks through images, discussion and participation – this enabled us to articulate the adults re-imagining of Door84, helping to ensure their needs will be met in the future. I explained my presence at Community Sparks to all adults and their carers verbally throughout the duration of the project. This enabled me to build the trust of all participants and elicit consent using an ongoing narrative approach. Ahead of the collage activity, I explained the specific purpose of the task to each adult and carer, ensuring that everyone understood that what they were being asked to do was voluntary and that they understood what I would do with the data. One participant chose not to participate in the collage activity.

## Findings

## The Collage

The frequency of images in the collages produced by the adults (N=17) and their carers indicated the wide variety of activities the adults like to do and would like to do at Community Sparks. Music was the most frequent image (31), with games (23), food and drink (21) and arts and crafts (20) all close together, followed by socialising (10) and animals (5).

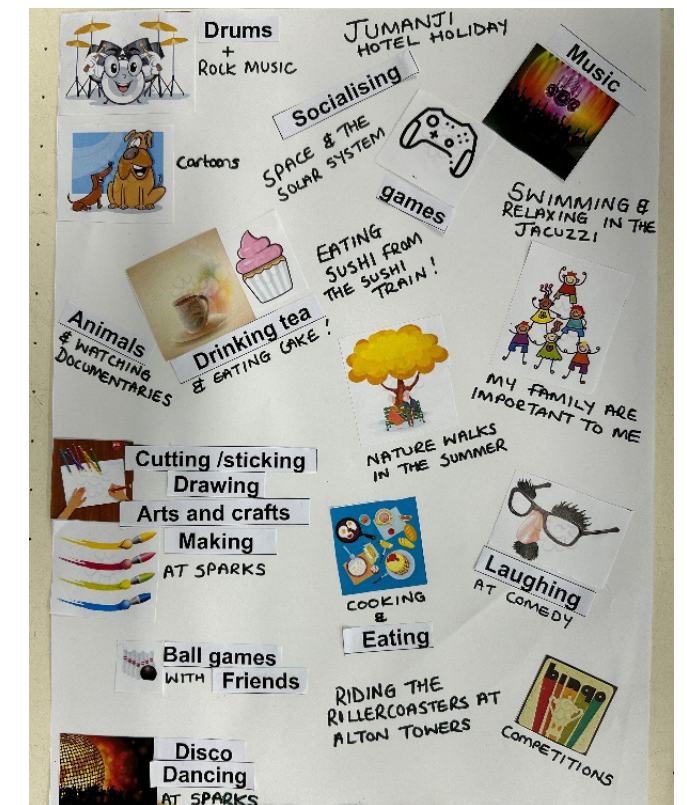


Figure (18): A photograph of an example of a collage produced by an adult and their carer (Researcher Photograph)

Looking at individual collages, it was clear that the wide spread of activities appreciated by the group was reflected in the wide spread of activities appreciated by individual adults and their carers, with all collages including images from at least 5 categories.

Taken as a whole, the relative infrequency of 'arts and crafts' as opposed to 'music' was perhaps indicative of how familiar the adults and then carers were with Tuesday arts and crafts activities, including the fact that the making of collage itself was part of this category. Similarly, the relative infrequency of 'socialising' as opposed to other categories was perhaps due to the adults and their carers understanding of all of the activities as 'social'.

### Community Sparks: a safe space which fosters belonging

The collage activity demonstrated how as a group and as individuals within a group, a wide variety of activities at Community Sparks were valued by adults and their carers. Crucially, the appreciation of this variety of activities has been fostered by the development of a 'safe space' at Community Sparks, which allows the adults to participate and socialise in different ways throughout their sessions.

The safe space which epitomises Community Sparks is created through clear structures and clear activities. On Tuesdays, this means that adults tend to participate initially by going to the table that is familiar to them, where they can begin the first arts and craft activity. They are then 'served' by members of the Community Sparks team with a hot drink, which is quickly followed by different offerings of food. These familiar actions have become 'rituals', providing Community Sparks with 'a calming rhythm' appreciated by all.

As well as rituals, the safe space is also created by the 'relational practices' of the Community Sparks Lead and the wider team. Community Sparks is a 'welcoming' place to come, with all adults and carers greeted at the front door as they arrive. At Community Sparks, the Lead and the team know all of the adults' names. They interact with the adults in a dynamic way, referencing a 'collective history' and 'prior shared experiences', which involve 'highlighting and celebrating the achievements of everyone'.

Two of Community Sparks team have support needs themselves. This is a really important aspect of Community Sparks. As one carer told me, 'they are so good with the adults here' and they 'really make it work by creating a sense of belonging'. Taken together, these rituals and relational practices mean that Community Sparks is a 'vibrant and vital community': one carer spoke of how her adult 'knows she's coming to see her friends and as soon as she's here she's familiar'; another said that his adult is 'sociable and loves to be around people at Community Sparks'.

As indicated by the spread of activities valued by the adults in the collage activity, structure and rituals are balanced by the ways in which the space, the Leader and the Community Sparks team afford the adults freedom to express themselves and participate in social activities in different ways. For one adult without a carer, this means sitting on a sofa away from the arts and crafts activities, without any compulsion to participate. Instead, he observes others, talking to members of the project team who come and sit next to him. For one adult, this means turning the room into a stage with the other adults and carers as his audience as he sings Bruce Springsteen songs. For another adult, it means indicating to a Community Sparks team member to ask everyone to be 'quiet' so that they become his audience, and he can make his 'weekly announcement about activities that have been organised'. For those adults in need of more physical exertion, it means 'going over to the pool table with their carer and their friends'.

What is clear from my observations is the direct relationship between structure and freedom: how the relational implementation of structures and rituals creates the safe space and sense of belonging that allows adults the freedom to express themselves and socialise with others in different ways.

### How music offers different ways of socialising for different adults at Community Sparks

As well as being highly valued by adults and their carers in the collage activity, I observed how music afforded different types of opportunities for different adults to participate. On a Tuesday, the Community Sparks arts and crafts activities take place in two separate rooms, with adults and carers who particularly like music going into the room where music is continually played. This gives the opportunity for some adults to 'sing along', for others to 'dance with their carers', and for those who 'seem to enjoy complaining about the music that [is] being played' to do just that! In this room, it is common for one of the team and one of adults to stand up and perform the music 'karaoke style'. This involves the team member 'singing along to Elvis', and the adult 'performing Bruce Springsteen songs with an air guitar', with the other adults and carers their appreciative audience. On Thursdays, music itself takes centre stage, with adults dancing with each other and their carers at the Sparks Community Disco.

### A safe space for one adult with epilepsy

One of the adults who frequently attends Community Sparks has two carers on account of his acute epilepsy. As one of his carers told me, this adult 'loves arts and crafts' but is unable to engage with arts and crafts activities at home because he tends to 'overthink' what he is doing, which results in him having 'seizures'. This is not the case at Community Sparks, which his carer describes as 'amazing for him as he can do arts and crafts in this environment' because 'everything is provided for him and it's time-limited'.

There is also something about the social aspect of Community Sparks that means this is a safe space for this particular adult. He is surrounded by other adults and responds positively to them, which seems to placate the potential for paroxysms in his brain. As with all of the adults, the Community Sparks team are quick to celebrate his achievements. I witnessed firsthand his delight when he won the Easter bonnet competition, his carer explaining how that 'that has made his day', just as it had 'made his day' when his artwork was displayed 'on the wall and in the newsletter.' The importance of Community Sparks as a social outlet is also evident at the Thursday disco, when his carer says, 'he comes into his own.' Here 'he dances and needs all his friends.' The social interaction is 'crazy and good.'

It cannot be understated how just how valuable Community Spark is for this adult. By being with others in safe space, he is able to socialise and engage with the activities he loves, with the risks posed by his epilepsy mitigated.



Belonging at Community Sparks and the importance of 'trips'

During my time at Community Sparks, many of the adults and carers spoke about how much they enjoyed the 'bowling trip', which had become a regular feature on the Community Sparks calendar. When I spoke to adults and their carers about what else they would like to at Community Sparks, many of them mentioned 'going on more trips'. This is included a range of ideas, some which would incur no cost ('setting up a 'walking club' and 'walking around York'), and some of which would have cost implications ('going on trip like bowling' and going on a 'daytrip to the coast').

It was clear that the value the adults and their carers placed on going on trips was directly related to the sense community they experienced at Community Sparks. Because they feel they belong, they have the confidence to want to take that feeling of belonging elsewhere. This demonstrates how personal growth is facilitated by Community Sparks through belonging.



More Community Sparks: 'We want a third day'

The value placed on 'going on trips' was indicative of the value that the adults and their carers placed on the service offered by Community Sparks as a whole. Many of the carers and adults spoke of how they would welcome a 'third day' of Community Sparks, with Wednesday suggested as the optimal third day by the majority. The adults and their carers appreciated the clarity of the current provision offered, with the adults knowing that Tuesday was for arts and crafts and Thursday for the disco. They suggested the third day should also have a specific focus, with ideas including 'a musical singalong', 'modelling', 'gardening', 'cooking your own lunch without an oven', and holding a 'cinema screening'.

The need for further outlets for adults with support needs, coupled with the success of Community Sparks in meeting the needs of this group, indicates how Door84 should consider widening their offer.

Community Sparks: Key Findings

1. Community Sparks provides a safe space for adults with support needs, offering a variety of activities that reflect their interests.
2. The safe space at Community Sparks is created by carefully structured activities and rituals which are familiar, providing the adults with confidence and freedom to express themselves and socialise in different ways.
3. Community Sparks is underpinned by relational practice, which fosters a keen sense of belonging for adults and their carers.
4. Community Sparks provides a vital service to adults with support needs. Without Community Sparks, many of the adults would be deprived of the social outlet they need to flourish.

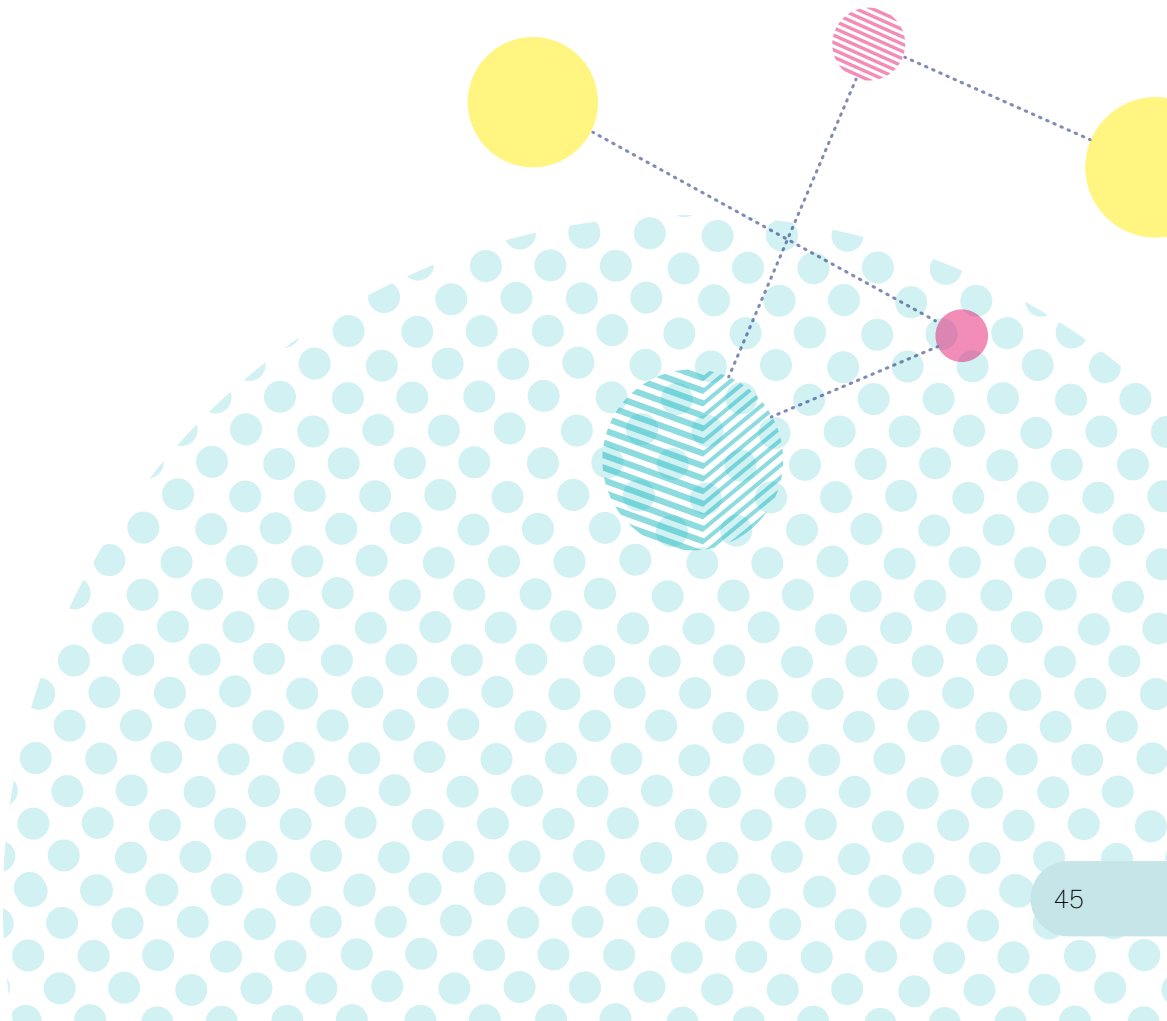
Community Sparks: Recommendations

For Door 84:

1. To continue to offer a variety of activities reflecting the interests of the adults attending Community Sparks.
2. To continue with the relational practices that underpin Community Sparks and create belonging.
3. To consider offering a third day of Community Sparks, which would have a new focus.
4. To think about how the physical space of Door84 could be adapted to facilitate different activities that provide different opportunities for adults to express themselves and socialise.

For other partners:

1. Funders should support Community Sparks to enable its continuation and potential growth to meet the demand for the vital service it provides.
2. As relational practices are central to the success of Community Sparks, volunteers should commit for a significant period of time to build relationships with adults and their carers.





# Research in the Community Cafe and Pantry (Amy Holmes)

This stage took place in the Community Cafe and Pantry on Fridays, and then on Wednesday afternoons. These sessions are attended by people who live in The Groves or areas such as Acomb and Holgate. The Community Cafe and Pantry run simultaneously, and are mainly staffed by volunteers, who distribute food and other essentials or provide hot drinks and cake. The Wednesday sessions are an important space for socialising, and for civic providers such as the City of York Council and the Local Area Co-ordinator to offer support. Excluding the Community Pantry, these sessions are relatively unstructured, and visitors tend to use the cafe for as long as they need. Attendance can vary based on the weather, the variety of produce, and on whether York Learning sessions are being held. However, the sessions are attended by at least 15-20 regular visitors, with variation in how the services are used. Some attendees make use of both the Pantry and the Cafe, whilst others may only access one of the services.

## Observation and participatory mapping

Between November 2023 and March 2024, I attended six sessions. I embedded myself in the sessions by helping in the pantry, or by observing and talking to visitors in the cafe. During two of the sessions, I carried out participatory mapping activities in the cafe. Visitors were encouraged to write on the maps and to use post-it notes to respond anonymously to the following questions:

- Session 1: 'What works and what doesn't? What does there need to be more of?'
- Session 2: 'Community assets'-what do you value the most in the area? What spaces do you consider to be the most important?

I also asked some regular visitors more targeted questions. This allowed me to learn more about them, and to understand what Door 84 meant to them. I took additional notes on the things that I observed, or to summarise the conversations that I had with volunteers and cafe visitors. This allowed me to build a reflective journal and to process the rich and sometimes overwhelming experience of being in the bustle of the Pantry and Cafe.

## Analysis of participatory mapping and observational data

I used thematic analysis to identify common responses in the data. Below is a word cloud that presents thirty keywords from the mapping activity.



Figure (19): Wordcloud of subthemes from participatory mapping and observational data.

These subthemes were organised into overarching themes of families, parenting and childhood; community and inclusion; regeneration, diversity and conflict; local priorities, services and infrastructure; and flexibility and creativity in space.

## Analysis of reports, local indices and statistical data

Alongside primary data collection, I analysed a range of reports and statistical information to better understand the socioeconomic circumstances of the Groves. These secondary sources included the Indices of Multiple Deprivation, the Joseph Rowntree Foundation's work on double deprivation, the APPG consultation on Left-Behind Neighbourhoods, and the Groves Community Plan. I utilised existing statistical data and area maps to compare The Groves, the Guildhall ward and the City of York with other cities in the region, and with other neighbourhoods of interest.

## Ethics- the importance of 'opting in' and respecting space

I used observation and participatory mapping because this allowed me to gather data from several participants without encroaching on the dynamics of the space, which is often busy. An 'opt-in' model of consent was used. I explained the purpose of the research and invited visitors to contribute anonymously by annotating the map, or leaving comments on post-it notes. I explained that any comments or post-its that were left on the map would be used as data. I recorded additional insights in a reflective journal, and decontextualised these where appropriate to avoid identifying individuals.

## Findings

### Safe, free spaces for parents and children

The mapping sessions emphasised the value of free spaces for parents. One of the things that parents enjoy, but also would like more of, is more structured and unstructured activities for them to do with their children, such as mini baking or gardening sessions. There is a need for safe spaces for under 5s and for children who are a little older, but not quite old enough to play outside unsupervised. Some suggestions included working with other community partners to repurpose equipment from Bootham Park or to revitalise the Secret Garden. Others suggest that the decline in spaces such as the Salvation Army preschool has left a gap in provision for both parents and children.

Practitioners say that providing space for young parents gives them access to other services without them needing to wait for referrals or travel to other locations. CYC advisors highlighted the value of Community Cafe sessions for parents. These sessions enable them to discreetly make connections and offer advice about key issues such as health and wellbeing or domestic violence. They can supply leaflets and information without soliciting discussions with potentially vulnerable visitors. This discretion is key to establishing safe and accessible support infrastructure for many families.

### An accessible and flexible space for everyone

Participants have different ideas about how the spaces can be used but agree that an accessible and flexible community space is important. They have proposed that the spaces (indoor and outdoor) be available for more events at weekends and in the evenings. Suggestions for accessibility include lift access and a cover or shelter over some of the outdoor space. Other ideas include a mix of free space and spaces to be hired out. This would support other initiatives for underserved populations. One cafe visitor remarked that there are not enough resources for men's mental health in the neighbourhood and suggested that Door 84 could host a 'man shed' or other men's support group.

Residents have also suggested that the outdoor spaces at D84 can be used as a community hub for The Groves. This could include hosting parties, BBQs, and a market or pop-up stalls to support local businesses and bring them into contact with residents. Residents also highlight the value in having space to do nothing- having benches outside for people to sit and chat would help to alleviate loneliness and isolation.

### Local priorities, services and infrastructure

Door 84 is a hub for other services, who depend upon the connections that they make with its visitors. Both the physical infrastructure (the space) and the social infrastructure (the network of volunteers, co-ordinators and visitors) are important to these services. Many of these smaller services benefit from using Door 84's spaces because they then do not have overheads from finding premises and additional labour. Other events that are held at Door 84, such as the York Learning 'Cook, Serve and Save' the 'Sewing Skills-Mending and Upcycling', and 'Mixed Craft' sessions, enable further engagement with local services. Similarly, Door 84 acts as a hub for the advertisement of other local initiatives, such as the repair café. Therefore, Door 84 is vital to generating and sustaining community capital through the networks that it creates.

There are differences in how visitors perceive the idea of a 'community asset'. Practitioners such as CYC councillors place greater importance on named, identifiable services, whereas locals focus more on less tangible, emotional aspects such as belonging and safety. E.g. comparison of 'community assets' indicates that café users tie the idea of an asset or positive less to an individual space or service, and more to the way that service/ space makes them feel, whereas practitioners identify specific services (such as the Red Tower) and talk about them quite practically. This indicates that community need is not only articulated in terms of very real, practical assets, but also as an expression of a desire for shared experiences of belonging and safety.

### Regeneration, diversity and conflict

Visitors expressed concern about the regeneration of the city, and the impact that this has on their experience of and access to local services. However, this isn't just about accessing specific services, but how participants feel they are represented in city planning as residents of the wider City of York. They express concerns about the visibility and overrepresentation of some groups, with a particular emphasis on how temporary populations such as students are perceived to be prioritized over them in key issues such as housing. The positive contribution of students is recognised, but there is a sense that the city prioritises tourism and students over residents. This can lead to feelings of isolation amongst older residents, who find it difficult to access the city centre, or who feel that they are not represented in the events that take place in the city.



### Community cafe and pantry: Key findings

1. Some cafe visitors questioned the idea of 'community' and suggested that they don't feel like part of a community just because they attend Door 84. They raised questions about 'who the community is' and how it is defined.
2. Cafe visitors would like a greater variety of safe and free spaces for children and parents. They point to gaps in provision in other local areas, and to a need for more services across age groups.
3. It was agreed that Door 84 could be an even more flexible community space, and that there is a lot of potential for a variety of events and uses. These new offerings should be accessible and contribute to Door 84's financial sustainability as well as making a positive impact on the neighbourhood.
4. Door 84 is vital to the local community infrastructure- many smaller relationships depend on Door 84 to thrive.
5. Locals are concerned about being left behind by the regeneration of the city, and they feel like students and tourists are a bigger priority for planners. They acknowledge that students can make a positive contribution but feel that local people are underrepresented in housing issues and other key areas.

### Recommendations

#### For Door 84:

1. To consider how partnerships can be reciprocal and sustainable- both in current and future uses of the space.
2. To consider how the community cafe and pantry can continue to meet the needs of current visitors, whilst recognising some of the tensions around ideas of 'community', and prioritising reaching people in the immediate area (The Groves) who need support.

#### For other partners:

1. To prioritise values of reciprocity and collaboration in relationships with Door 84, and to think about either financial or 'in-kind' support where it is appropriate.
2. To recognise the associated costs of running Door 84, and the potential savings that partners make in utilising Door 84's services and networks.
3. To consider the potentially detrimental short-term and long-term impacts that partnership with Door 84 can have on staff, volunteers and visitors.
4. To ensure that partnership and use of the space is authentic to Door 84's ethos, and that it is mindful of the varied, intersecting forms of vulnerability and disadvantage that Door 84's visitors may be experiencing.
5. To conduct services and collaboration in and with Door 84 with empathy and respect for the visitors of Door 84, and to prioritise their needs.

## Other outputs

As well as the main project, we were able to secure funding to employ two illustrators, Sarah White and Matthew Cole, to work alongside Charlene with Door 84 to develop two board games and a mural based on the research project. The aim of this project was to create outputs from the findings of the main project that the community could relate to and enjoy going forwards, as well as for us as researchers to learn more about the use of such creative projects going forward. NB these projects are not central to the main project but are worthy of note. There will further reporting about the processes and outputs at a later date, as they are still ongoing with a separate timeline.

### Boardgames

The funding allowed us to develop two board games. Sarah, Matthew and Charlene attended the Monday and Wednesday youth groups and followed the same protocol of the earlier project, deep hanging out before working directly with the young people regarding the project. Sarah's brief was to develop a boardgame about Door 84 with the young people, based on some of the themes that arose from the research. Matthew's brief was to develop a board game about research ethics based on the research work the young people had carried out. The idea was the first game would be a legacy for Door 84, and the Research Ethics game could be used for future young researchers.

### Research Ethics Game

Matthew and Charlene had a long conversation with some of the young researchers who decided they really wanted to unpack ideas of consent within research. The young researchers at the Wednesday session discussed how consent is nuanced and can be given but taken away. Matthew then worked with them to devise a game that would help others explore these issues. The ideas for the game were co-constructed within two sessions one at the Monday session and one at the Wednesday session. Matthew designed a prototype which he then took to the 16-25 group to try out and gain feedback. This way all the youth groups were involved with the design at different stages. The game has been well received at Door 84 but also with academics at York St John. The hope is to develop it into a wider resource. The thinking demonstrated by the young researchers was well developed, critical, and nuanced.

### Door 84 Game

Sarah attended the same sessions at Matthew and worked with groups of young people about the general themes that had come out of the research regarding Door 84. The young people felt that these were community, friendship, helping one another and a sense of belonging. It was clear that staff and volunteers are such an important part of why they come to Door 84, they had to feature within the game (but with different names). The board game emphasises the values that the young people felt exemplified Door 84 and helped further distil our understanding of people's attachment to the charity. The tag line developed for the game is "There is so much more to Door 84"

### The Mural

Once the work with the groups regarding the boardgames was complete, Matthew and Sarah then started work on the mural. To do this they talked at length with Isobel about the overall project and findings, they discussed Door 84 and the research with young people. Sarah also discussed ideas with adults at the Community Cafe. People were asked for ideas but also for drawings or artwork that they wanted to embed into the mural. There was also a suggestion box which was used by some of the 16-25 group. As a result, Sarah and Matthew were able to develop plans that incorporated images and ideas from beneficiaries and staff of Door 84 as well as develop the key themes that came across in their discussions. The adults wanted to see friendship, community and belonging incorporated and the young people wanted to see friendship, fun and games as themes. Food was important to everyone and will have a place within the mural. The mural is painted around the entrance to Door 84, it is bright and summarises all that Door 84 stands for.

# Key Findings

Through analysing the data gathered across the various strands of this project, we found that:

- 1. Door 84 provides vital services, activities, food, and a safe space to many underserved members of the Groves and across York.
- 2. Door 84 functions to facilitate connections between people, other services, and local community infrastructure. Many important relationships for people across York depend on Door 84 to thrive.
- 3. Those who currently access Door 84 and other stakeholders feel Door 84 should expand. They would like to see an increased number of Youth and Community Sparks sessions throughout the week, with more activities on offer, and additional sessions aimed at other members of the community, including parents and young children, neurodiverse young people, the elderly, and those in need of support within The Groves.
- 4. By increasing the accessibility of the space at Door 84, more underserved York residents could benefit from what is on offer at the centre.
- 5. 'Community' as an idea is understood differently by different people who visit Door 84. Whilst some feel that Door 84 helps build community, others were aware of tensions in who might be included in The Groves or York communities and did not feel part of these communities just because they accessed Door 84.

## Recommendations

### For Door 84:

- 1. To continue to offer current sessions and activities and to consider how to expand these to offer more Youth and Community Sparks sessions throughout the week.
- 2. To consider expanding the variety of sessions currently offered at Door 84 to include other underserved local people such as parents and young children, neurodiverse young people, the elderly, and more people within The Groves.
- 3. To think about how the space at Door 84 could be adapted to be more accessible to facilitate additional opportunities for everyone to engage in the activities and sessions at Door 84.
- 4. To raise awareness of the services on offer at Door 84 by reaching out to local groups and using advertisements.

### For other partners:

- 1. To prioritise the values of reciprocity and collaboration in relationships with Door 84, and to think about either financial or 'in-kind' support where appropriate. Referring agencies should understand there is a cost to Door 84 for their referral, and partners should recognise the potential savings they make in utilising Door 84's facilities, services, and networks.
- 2. To consider the potentially detrimental impacts that partnership work with Door 84 can have on staff, volunteers, and visitors at Door 84. In particular, partnership work should be done with empathy and respect for those visiting Door 84 and should prioritise their needs. Volunteers should commit for a significant period of time to build relationships with those accessing Door 84.
- 3. For the new combined Local Authority to have a deeper understanding of the value of Door 84 to social provision and the risks to The Groves and York if Door 84 were to reduce its offer, or close, due to lack of funding.

## Conclusion

There are few other community or youth spaces left in York. Without Door 84 those living in disadvantaged and underserved communities would be significantly impacted, with many cut off from important services and significantly socially isolated. Door 84 is a longstanding charitable organisation that plays a vital role in the community and will require further funding in the future to maintain and expand the important service it provides.

# Appendices





# ‘Re-imagining Door 84’ information sheet

## What are we doing?

We are looking for ideas to make Door 84 the best it can be!

## what will happen to your suggestions?

Door 84 Researchers, Door 84, and York St John University will use your suggestions to help make plans for Door 84's future. They may be used in outputs such as reports, art, and academic publications.

## How will it benefit you?

Your suggestions may change Door 84's future to your best version!

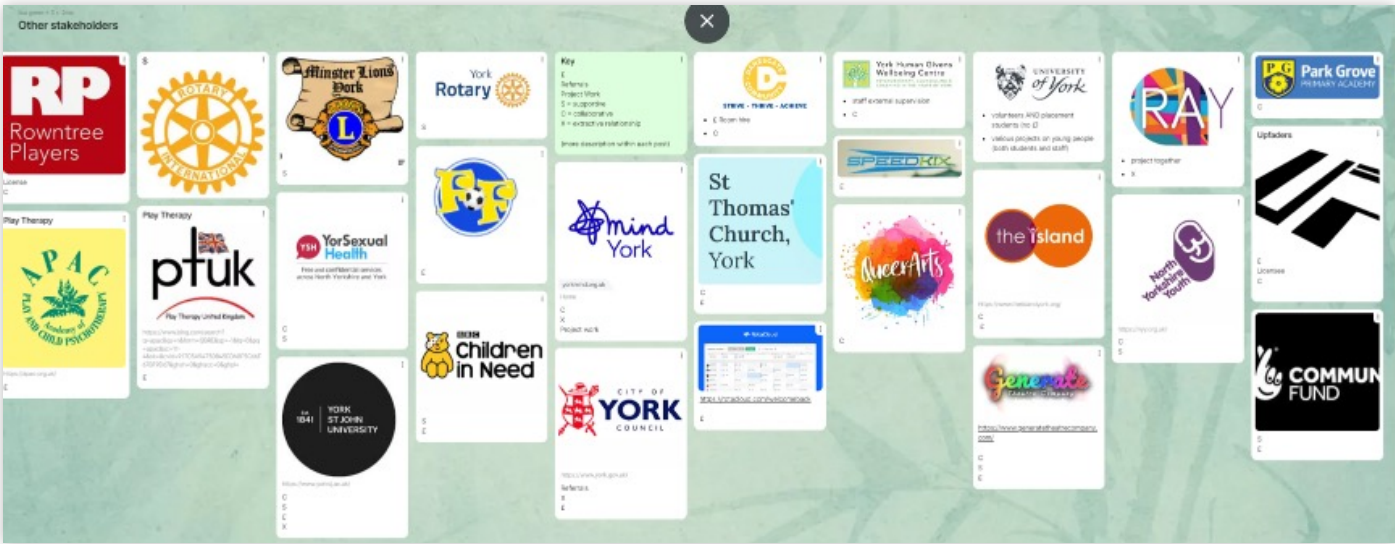
## Do I have to take part?

No. You can choose to take part if you want to, but you don't have to.

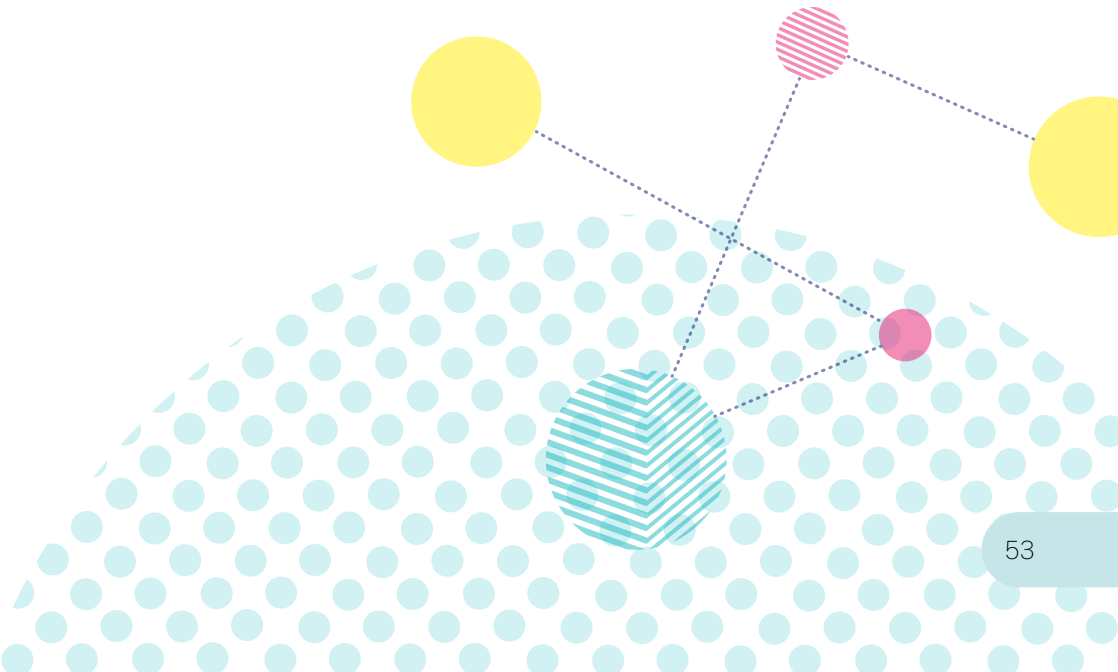


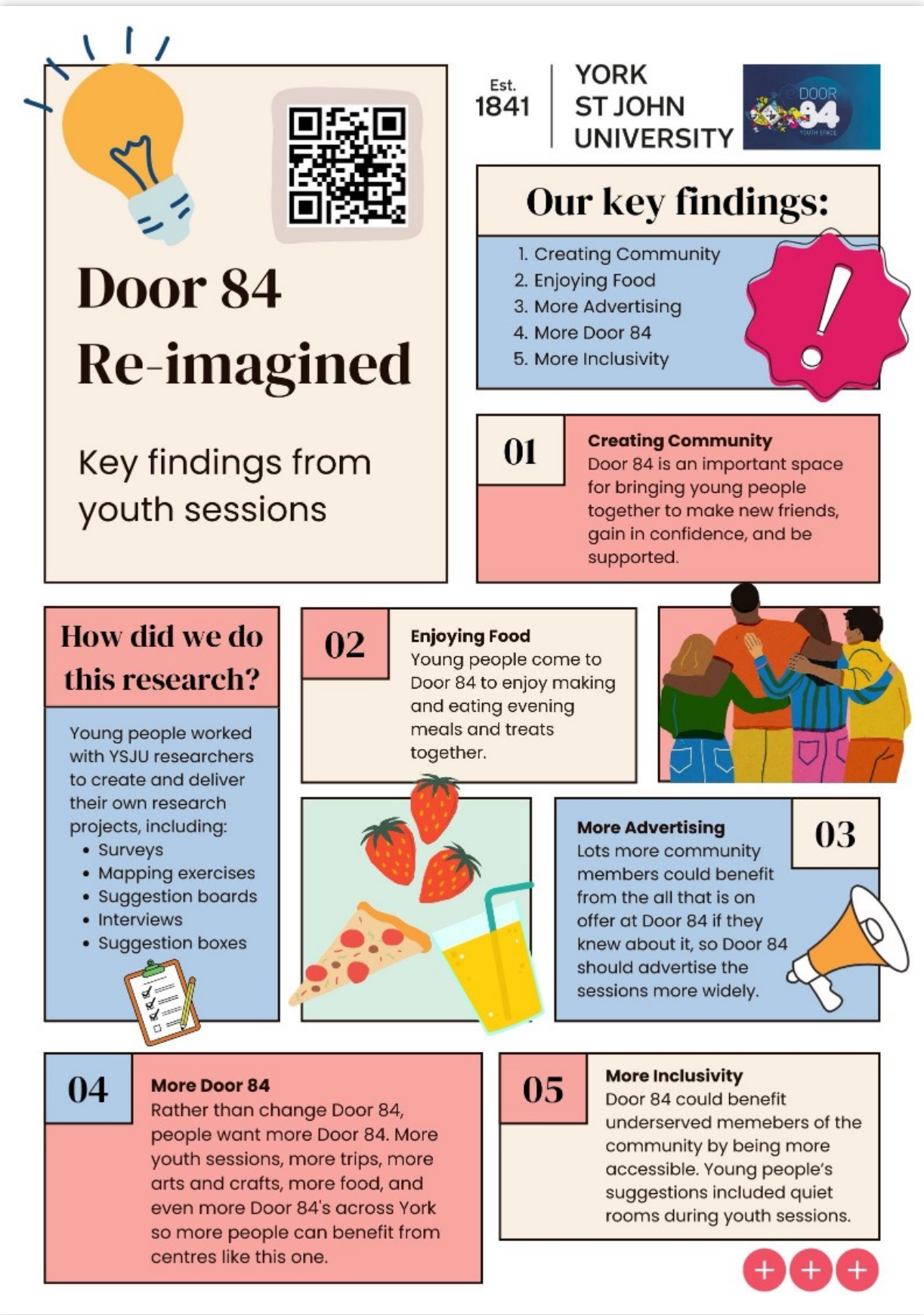
Door 84 as a big family!

(Information sheet, co-created by Youth Researchers for the suggestion board project)



(Partnership map, created by Door 84)





(Door 84 Youth Report, co-created with Youth Researchers)

Interpreting the IMD methodology

“Neighbourhoods in England are given a score and a rank on each domain of deprivation. The national IMD convention is as follows:

- A higher score indicates a greater level of deprivation and a rank of 1 indicates the most deprived area” (CYC, 2019)
- Each domain consists of multiple sub-domains that measure relevant indicators such as housing conditions, air quality, and type of crime.
- Calculations for each domain are based on the most recent available data- for some indicators, this is data from 2019. Other domains may include older data, depending on what was accessible at the time of data collection.

IMD scores and rankings are calculated for Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs)\* and aggregated to provide scores and rankings for the larger geographical units. Smaller area units (LSOAs) are composed of an average of 1,500 residents and 650 households. There are 32,844 LSOAs in England, and 120 of these are in York. The 32,844 LSOAs in England are divided into deprivation deciles, which are then used as a scale for the measurement of deprivation of individual LSOAs.

\*LSOAs do not map consistently onto wards. Rather, they are designed to divide England into consistently sized statistical units. This mitigates for the sometimes-large disparities in ward population sizes. Deprivation indices offer an overview of the LSOA- not every household in the LSOA will experience the same level of deprivation.

LSOA Level Analysis

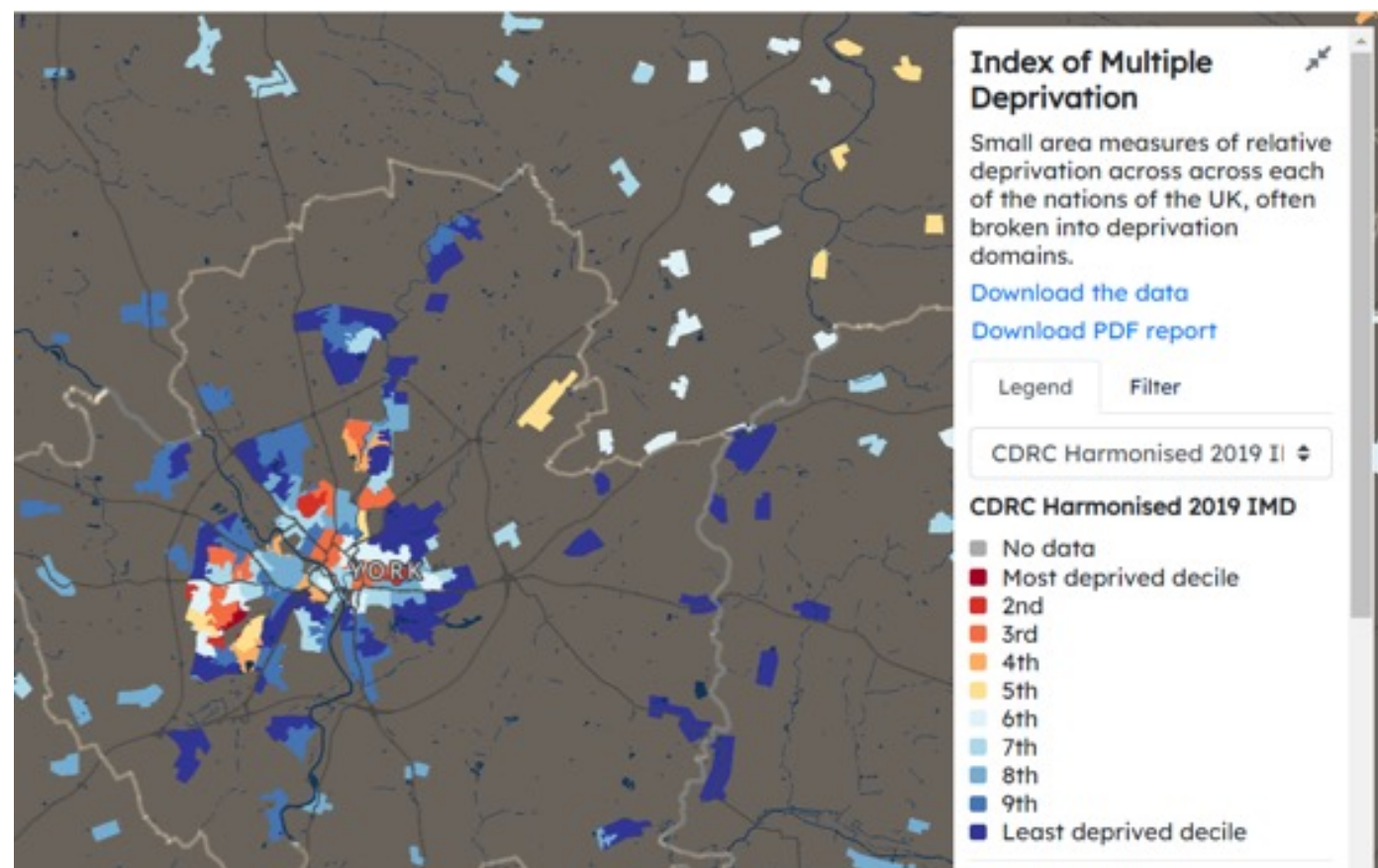
National Deprivation Decile	York LSOAs falling in each deprivation decile	
	No.	%
Decile 1 - Most Deprived	1	0.8%
Decile 2	5	4.2%
Decile 3	10	8.3%
Decile 4	4	3.3%
Decile 5	4	3.3%
Decile 6	9	7.5%
Decile 7	13	10.8%
Decile 8	12	10.0%
Decile 9	21	17.5%
Decile 10 - Least Deprived	41	34.2%
Total	120	100.0%

(CYC Strategic Intelligence Hub, 2019)

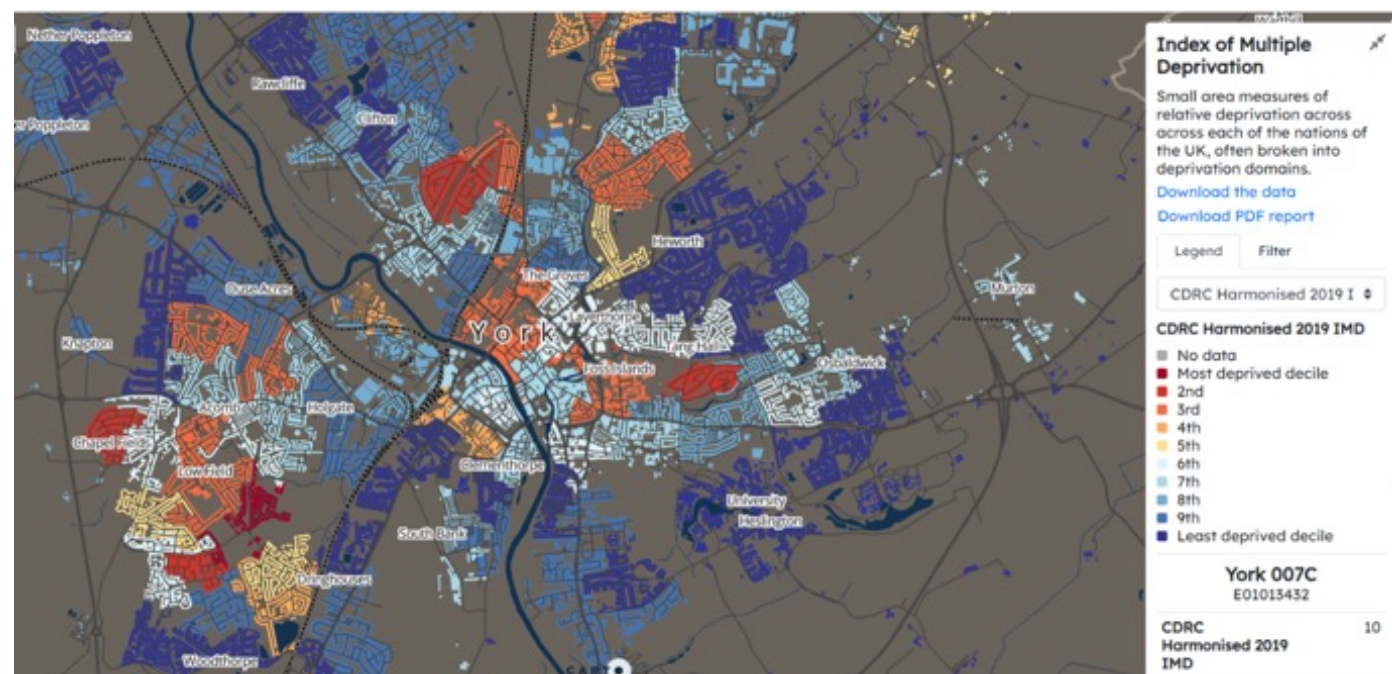
In 2019, York had 1 LSOA in the most deprived decile nationally (10%), and a further 5 LSOAs in the second most deprived decile. This means that there are a total of 6 LSOAs falling in the most deprived quintile (20%) nationally. However, a third of LSOAs in York fall in the least deprived decile nationally, and over half (62) of the LSOAs in York fall in the least deprived quintile.

The below maps illustrate the spread of LSOAs, with red and orange areas representing the most deprived LSOAs. The blue areas represent the least deprived LSOAs. The majority of LSOAs in York are shaded blue, indicating that they are in the least deprived deciles. The least deprived areas are clustered around the Copmanthorpe, Wheldrake, Haxby and Wiggington, and Fulford and Heslington wards. The most deprived areas are clustered around Acomb, The Groves (Guildhall ward), Heworth and Clifton. Strikingly, the most deprived and least deprived LSOAs frequently border each other, demonstrating that there are significant disparities in the levels of affluence and deprivation at the neighbourhood and even the street level.





(CDRC, 2024)



(CDRC, 2024)

The CYC Business Intelligence Hub has calculated ward level deprivation indices for 2019, using LSOAs within the boundary area for each ward. Although there is some crossover where LSOAs cross ward boundaries, these measures enable deprivation to be estimated at the ward level.

Wards are made up of multiple LSOAs- this means that there can be variation in the depth of deprivation within a ward's boundary. For example, Heworth contains both the 12th most deprived LSOA, and the 12th least deprived LSOA in York. These disparities are not always visible at the ward level but are apparent in comparisons between neighbourhoods.

IMD-Guildhall ward

Figures x to z display ONS Census maps for 2021. The maps describe the street level distribution of household deprivation for the Groves and the surrounding areas. As is demonstrated from the maps, the Groves has the lowest density of houses that are not deprived in any

dimension, and the highest density of houses that are deprived in two or three dimensions. Throughout all four of the maps, the area between Lord Mayors Walk and Eldon Street displays the most highly concentrated levels of household deprivation across one or more dimensions. The output areas with the most highly concentrated levels of household deprivation over three dimensions are E00067484 (9.9% of households) and E00067483 (10.8% of households). Both of these LSOAs span Lowther Street (where Door 84 is located), Townend Street and Garden Street. A further LSOA with a highly concentrated level of household deprivation across three dimensions is E00067485 (8.3%), which includes Bootham Row, Portland Street and Claremont Terrace.



(Office for National Statistics, 2024)





(Office for National Statistics, 2024)



(Office for National Statistics, 2024)



(Office for National Statistics, 2024)

### Headlines from the Guildhall Ward Profile

Data in the Guildhall Ward Profile is aggregated from a variety of statistical measures, from various sources such as census data, Department for Work and Pensions data, and Office for National Statistics data.

#### Key terms:

**Left-behind neighbourhoods:** “disadvantaged areas with high levels of community need” (APPG for Left-Behind Neighbourhoods, 2024). This term specifically describes wards that experience double disadvantage through economic deprivation and deficits in social infrastructure. The APPG describes this social deprivation as a lack of access to “services, facilities and connectivity that other areas often take for granted” (ibid)

**Unemployed but economically active:** People who are unemployed but are looking for work and available to start work.

**Economically inactive:** people who are not in paid full-time or part-time work, who are not looking for work or are available to start work.

**Refugee:** someone who has had to flee their home, and often home country, to escape a natural disaster, persecution, or war.

**Asylum seeker:** someone who had fled their home country and is seeking protection from serious violations to their human right in another country and is waiting for a decision on their asylum claim.

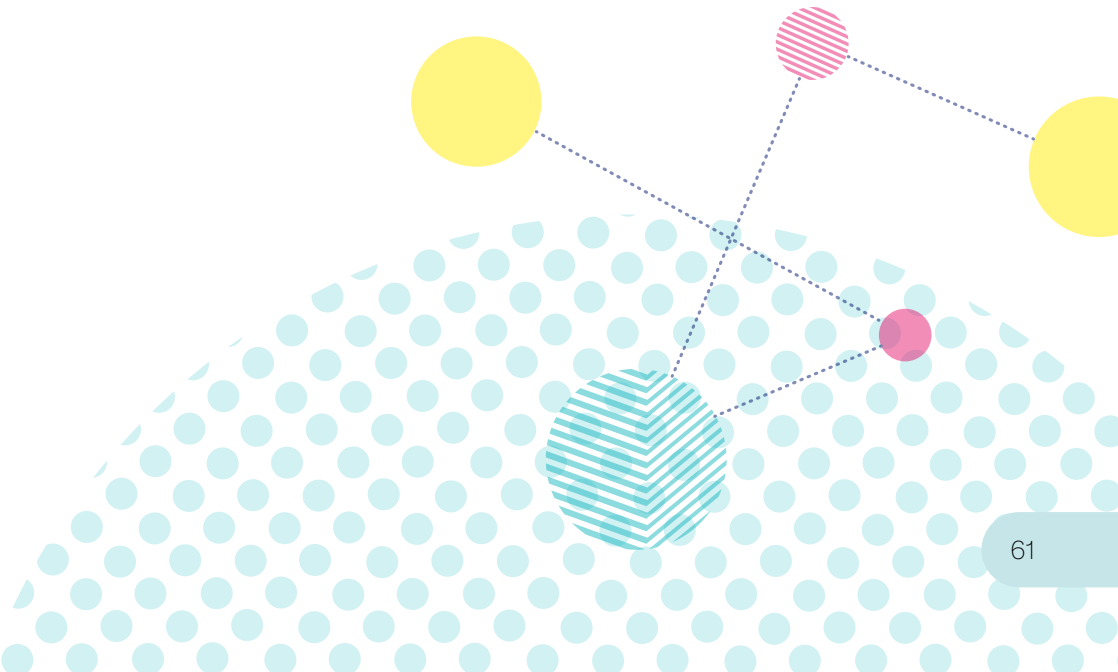
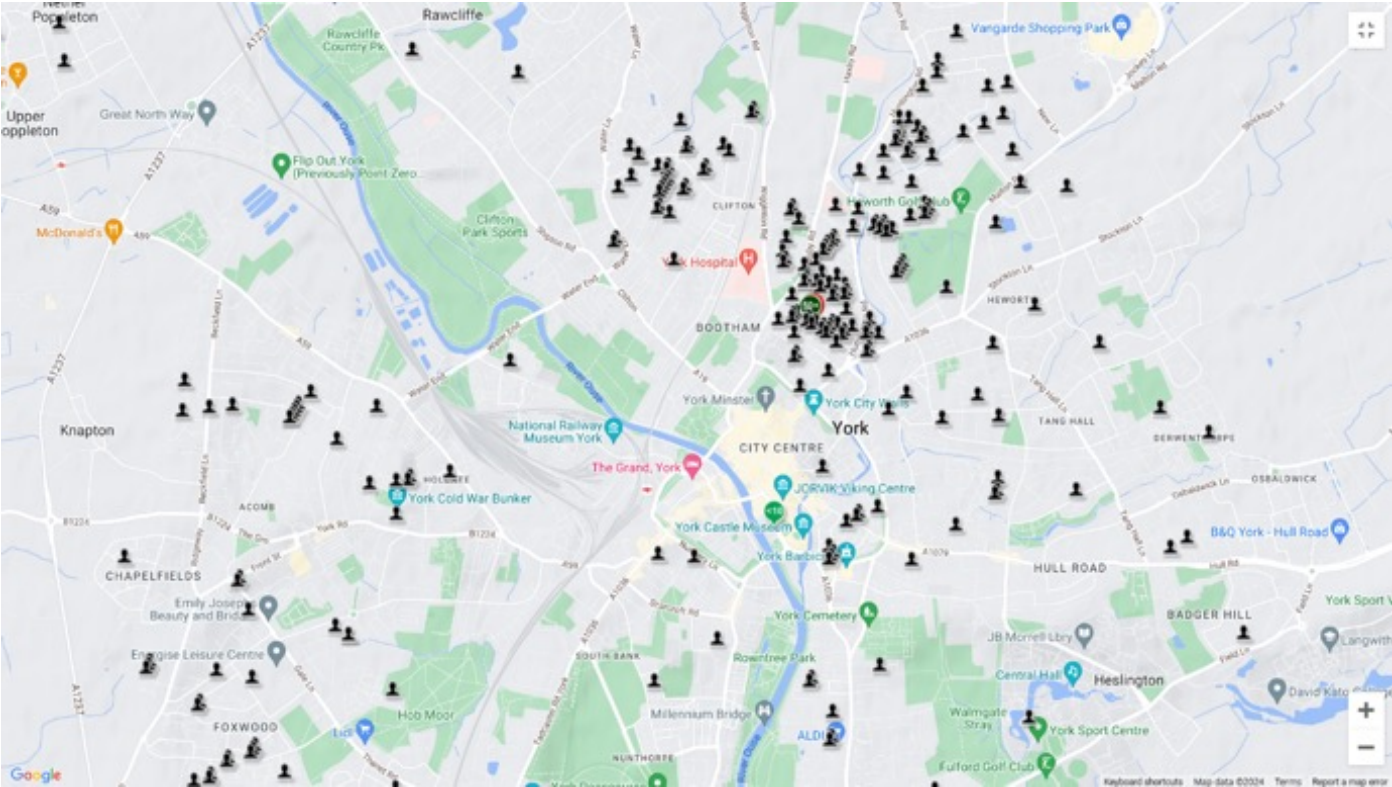
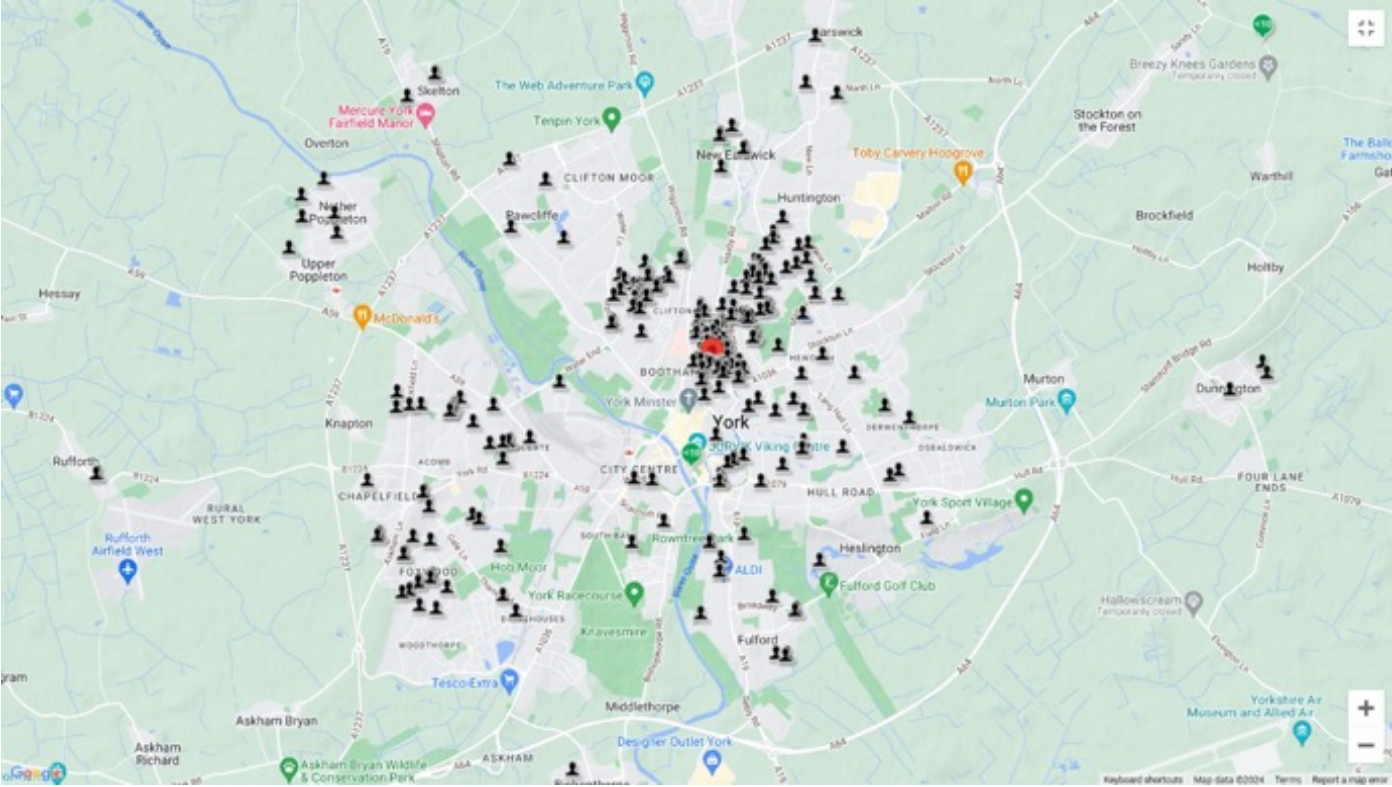
**Disadvantaged (according to the DFE):**

- “pupils who are recorded as eligible for free school meals, or have been recorded as eligible in the past 6 years, including eligible children of families who have no recourse to public funds (NRPF)
- children looked after by local authorities, referred to as looked-after children
- children previously looked after by a local authority or other state care, referred to as previously looked-after children” (DFE, n.d., in Miller, 2023)

**Pupil premium:** The pupil premium is a type of funding that is allocated to schools based on the number of pupils who are or have in the past 6 years been recorded as eligible for free school meals. The pupil premium is also considered against the number of looked after children that the school has in attendance, whether in local authority, state care or adoption.



Door 84 data-mapping engagement by youth groups





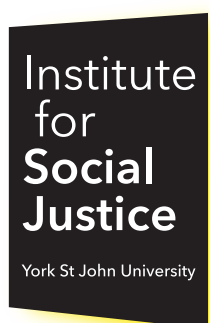
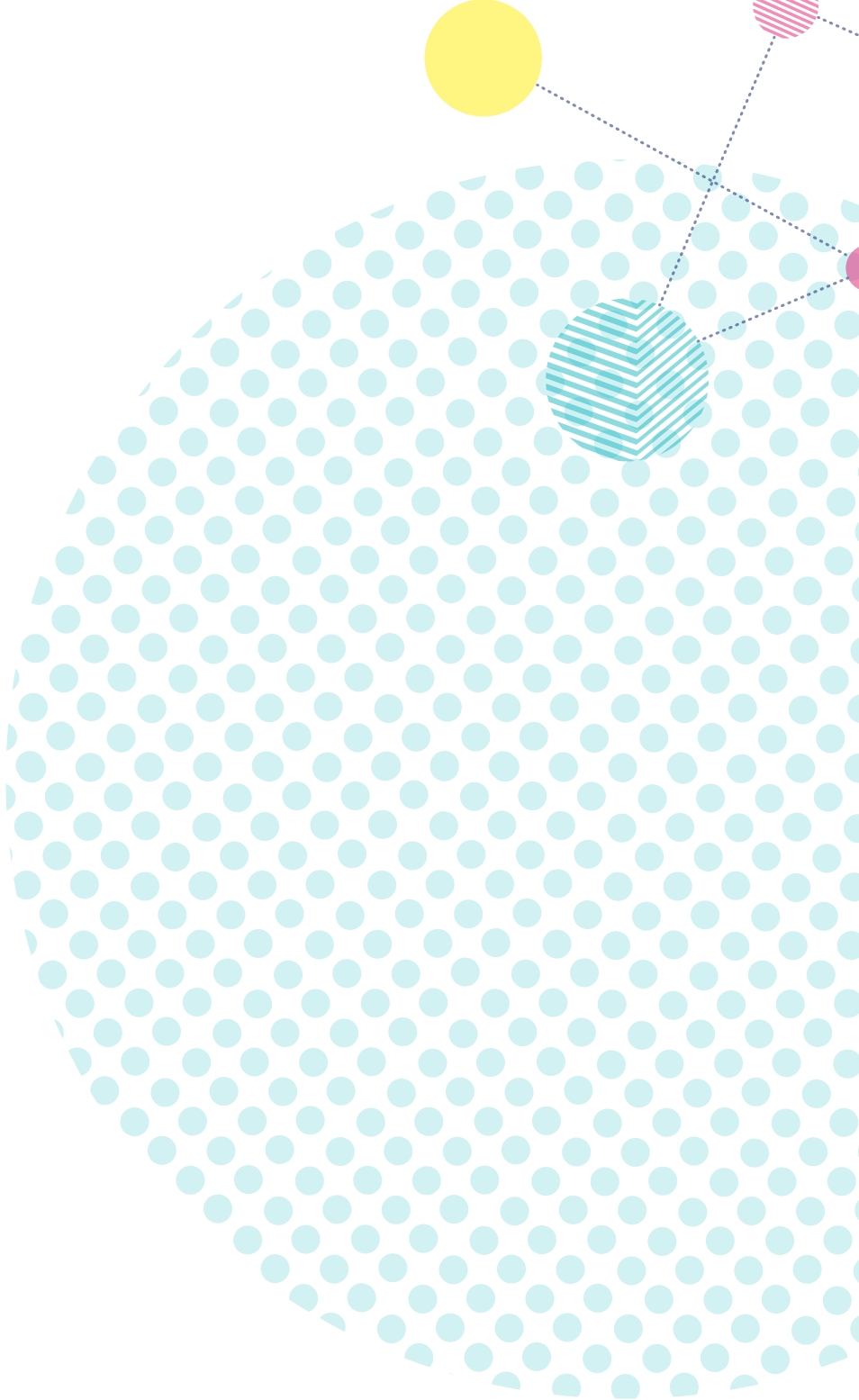
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