CIPFA Comparative Library Statistics 21/22

This report is being compiled a year after the end of 21/22 so it's worth recapping how services were effected by the pandemic at that time. At the start of 21/22 Explore had only three branches open with very reduced hours, no at-shelf browsing and no events. This turned around into a full offer within five months, but usage rose and fell throughout 21/22 as new variants emerged and customer confidence ebbed and flowed. Whilst all library services were tasked with the same broad challenge of providing for customers during a pandemic, decisions were made locally about when to re-introduce services like at-shelf browsing, PC use, and events. As such the 21/22 comparative statistics are not comparing authorities on a like for like basis in terms of the availability of services. Compared to other services, Explore tended to re-instate our offers swiftly as soon as it was safe and legal to do so, and therefore tended to be ahead of the national trend in progressing back towards pre-pandemic levels of use.
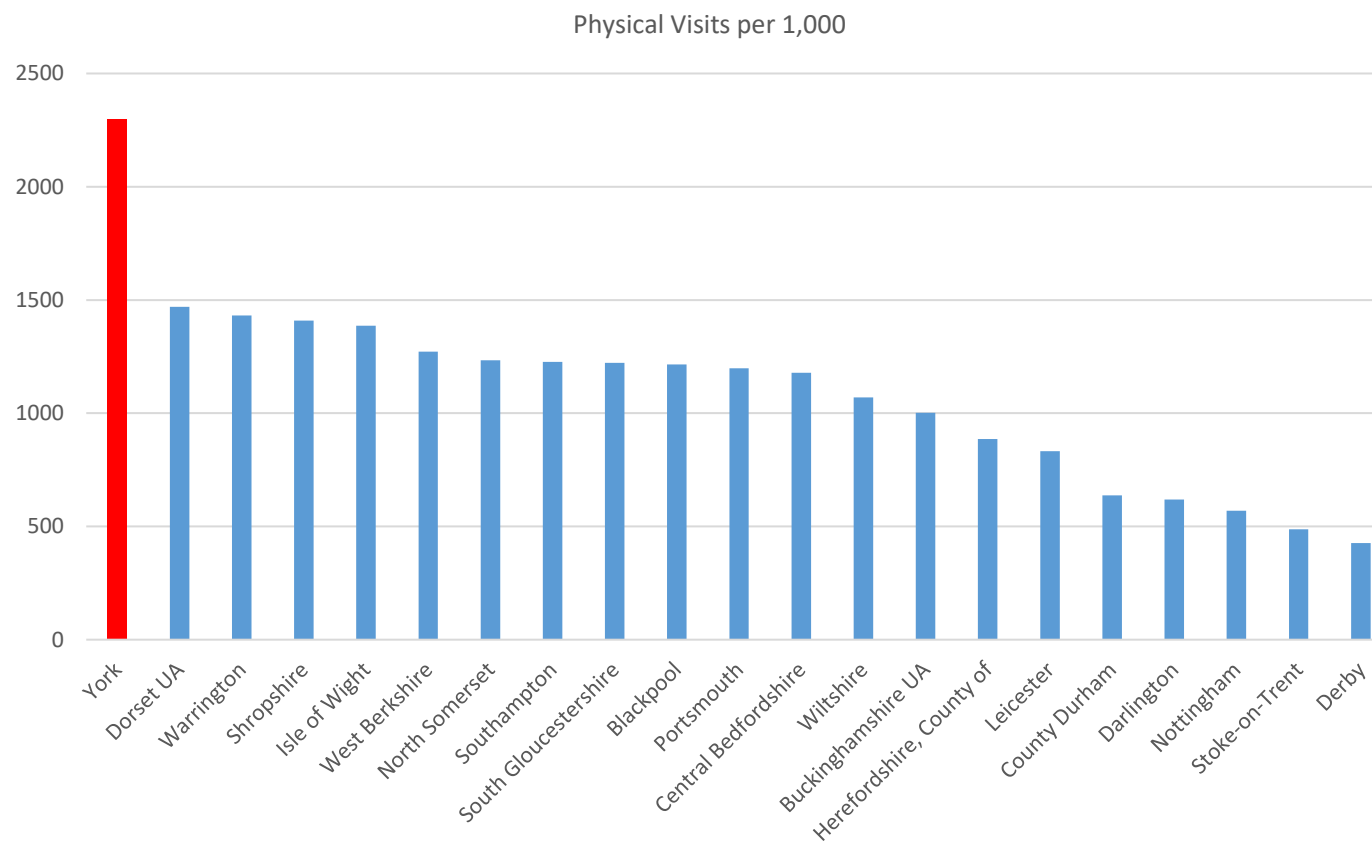
The figures in this report are based on data collected by CIPFA. Once again the number of English Unitary authorities submitting figures to CIPFA has fallen, so whilst we can still calculate our quartile position, we cannot state it with confidence. Of 55 Unitary Authorities, in most cases only 21 submitted figures, less than half of the unitary authorities for the first time, and a big drop from 40 authorities just a couple of years ago. Whilst some of this drop-off may be due to authorities feeling that pandemic figures are not comparable, the number of authorities taking part has been on a downwards trend for several years and may not bounce back.

Some of the measures which have been available in previous years (e.g. PC usage, footfall as busiest branches, and staffing levels) have not been released by CIPFA so do not form part of this report.

Physical Visits per 1,000 population

Whilst York's footfall is usually **upper quartile**, we would not normally expect to be an outlier as shown here. Some of the Unitary Authorities who typically get high footfall per population (e.g. Cheshire West; Windsor & Maidenhead; Thurrock) did not submit figures this year. As mentioned in the introduction, York were able to re-introduce services like events, at-shelf browsing, PC sessions and evening opening relatively early following the lockdowns, and our usage tended to be ahead of the trend accordingly: by the end of 21/22 York's footfall was 76% of our pre-pandemic levels whereas nationally (according to a small informal sample compiled by Libraries Connected) it was around 50%.

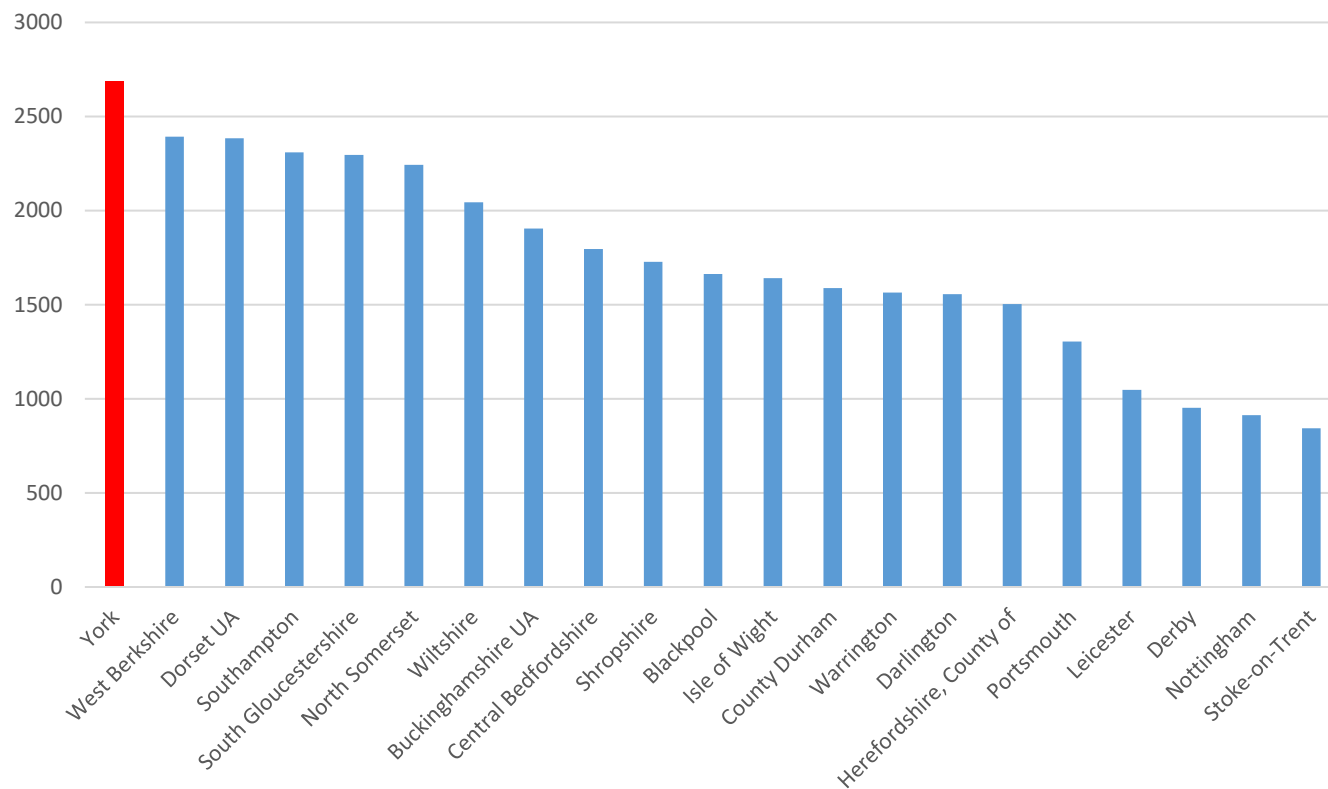| Authority (21 of 55 UAs)	Physical Visits per 1,000
York	2298.5
Dorset UA	1469.2
Warrington	1431.2
Shropshire	1409.1
Isle of Wight	1386.9
West Berkshire	1272.3
North Somerset	1233.3
Southampton	1226.6
South Gloucestershire	1222.3
Blackpool	1215.7
Portsmouth	1197.9
Central Bedfordshire	1178.7
Wiltshire	1070.3
Buckinghamshire UA	1002.5
Herefordshire, County of	886.6
Leicester	832.1
County Durham	637.1
Darlington	618.2
Nottingham	569.9
Stoke-on-Trent	487.2
Derby	427.1

Physical Visits per 1,000

Book Issues per 1,000 population

York's performance on this measure was **upper quartile** again, and indeed top of 21 UAs

Book Issues refer to printed books only, the elibrary and any audiovisual materials are excluded
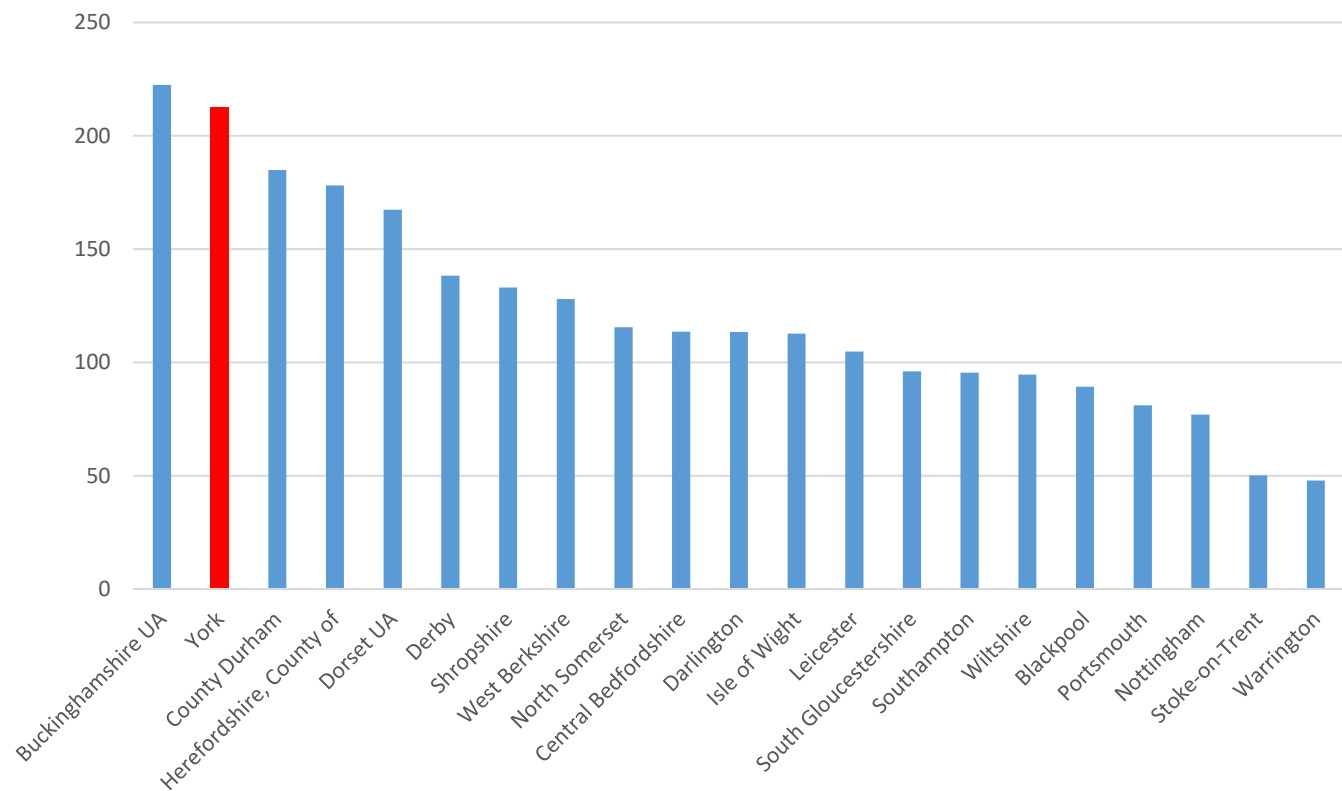

Book Issues per 1,000 pop

Authority (21 of 55 UAs)	Book Issues per 1,000 pop
York	2683.9
West Berkshire	2392.6
Dorset UA	2384.8
Southampton	2309.9
South Gloucestershire	2296.5
North Somerset	2243.8
Wiltshire	2043.6
Buckinghamshire UA	1904.6
Central Bedfordshire	1796.6
Shropshire	1727.2
Blackpool	1663.3
Isle of Wight	1641.1
County Durham	1587.6
Warrington	1565.3
Darlington	1556.5
Herefordshire, County of	1503.0
Portsmouth	1304.4
Leicester	1048.2
Derby	951.8
Nottingham	913.0
Stoke-on-Trent	843.7

eBooks Issues per 1000

York's performance was **upper quartile** again

eBooks issues refer to eBooks only, not eAudiobooks, Magazines or Newspapers
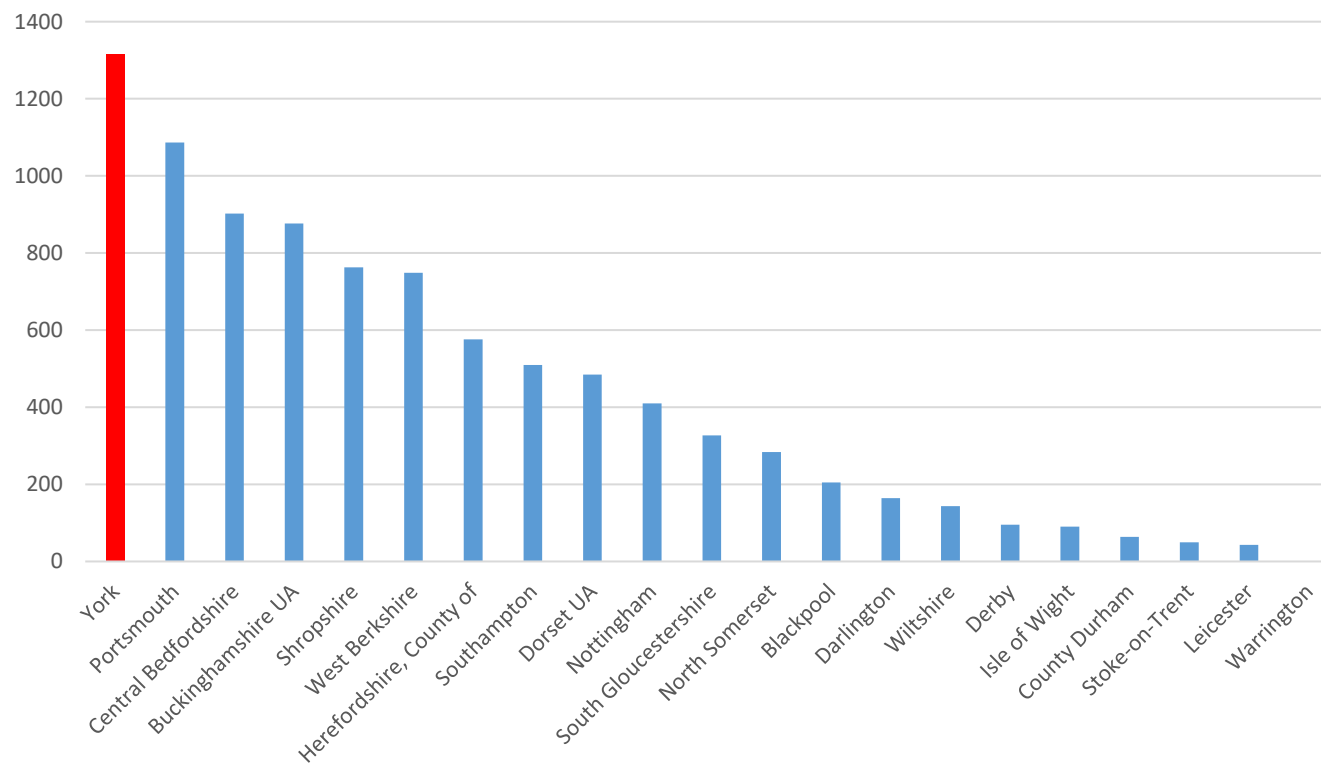

eBooks Issues per 1000 pop

Authority (21 of 55 UAs)	eBooks Issues per 1000
Buckinghamshire UA	222.5
York	212.5
County Durham	184.9
Herefordshire, County of	178.1
Dorset UA	167.4
Derby	138.2
Shropshire	133.0
West Berkshire	127.9
North Somerset	115.5
Central Bedfordshire	113.6
Darlington	113.4
Isle of Wight	112.6
Leicester	104.8
South Gloucestershire	96.0
Southampton	95.5
Wiltshire	94.6
Blackpool	89.2
Portsmouth	81.1
Nottingham	77.0
Stoke-on-Trent	50.1
Warrington	47.9

eNewspaper, eMagazine, and eComic Issues per 1000 population

York's performance was **upper quartile** and indeed top, the PressReader service having been very well received since its launch in April 2020

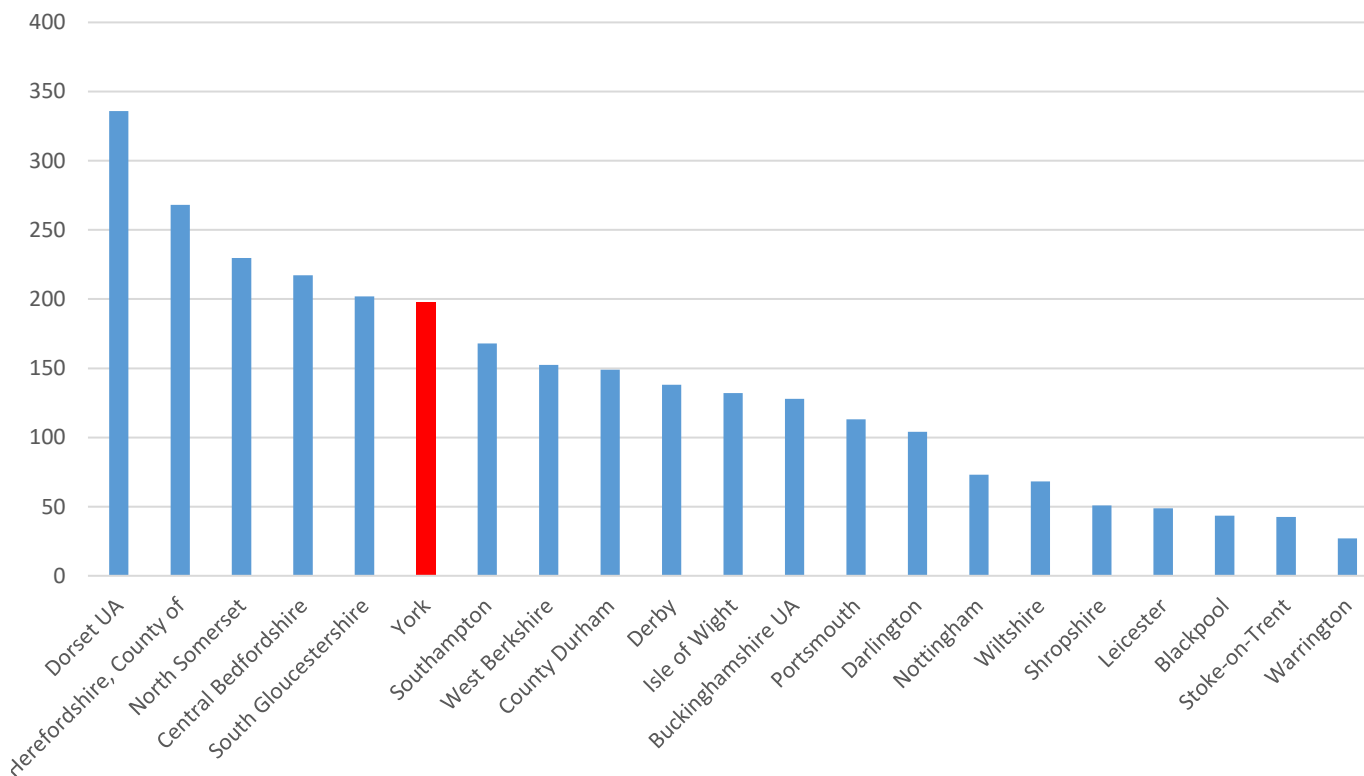eNewspaper, eMagazine, and eComic Issues per 1000 pop

Authority (21 of 55 UAs)	eNewspaper, eMagazine, and
York	1317.2
Portsmouth	1086.4
Central Bedfordshire	902.6
Buckinghamshire UA	876.5
Shropshire	763.0
West Berkshire	749.1
Herefordshire, County of	576.2
Southampton	509.8
Dorset UA	484.4
Nottingham	409.9
South Gloucestershire	326.9
North Somerset	283.8
Blackpool	204.8
Darlington	164.6
Wiltshire	143.2
Derby	95.8
Isle of Wight	90.7
County Durham	64.1
Stoke-on-Trent	50.1
Leicester	43.4
Warrington	0.4

eAudio and eAudiovisuals Issues per 1000 population

York's performance is well above average but falls just outside of the upper quartile - **second quartile**

Providing sufficient eAudiobooks to meet demand can prove challenging since the price of these items is high
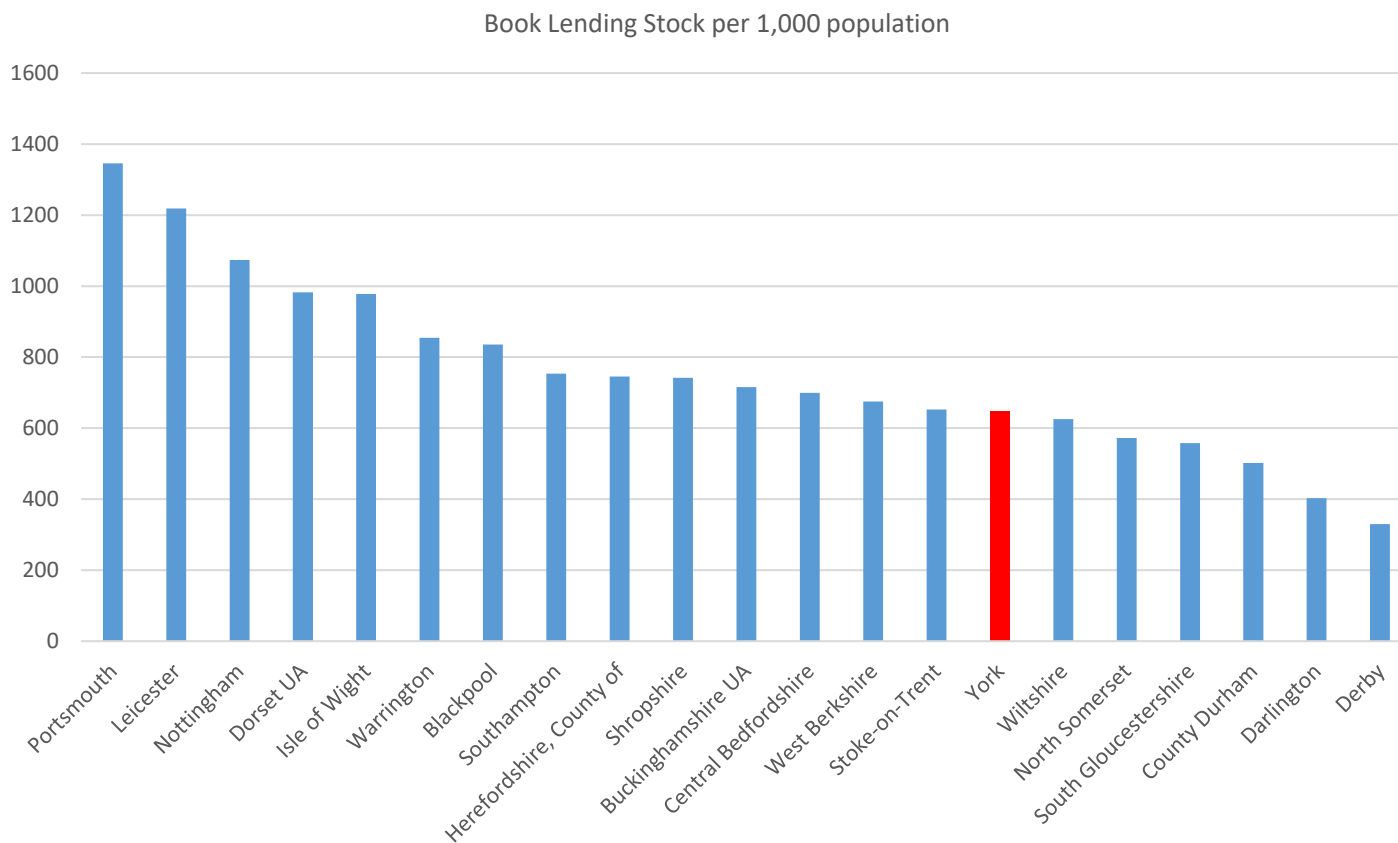
eAudio and eAudiovisuals Issues per 1000 pop

Authority (21 of 55 UAs)	eAudio and eAudiovisuals Issu
Dorset UA	336.0
Herefordshire, County of	268.0
North Somerset	229.7
Central Bedfordshire	217.1
South Gloucestershire	201.8
York	197.9
Southampton	168.0
West Berkshire	152.5
County Durham	148.9
Derby	138.0
Isle of Wight	132.1
Buckinghamshire UA	127.8
Portsmouth	113.1
Darlington	104.0
Nottingham	73.1
Wiltshire	68.2
Shropshire	50.8
Leicester	48.9
Blackpool	43.4
Stoke-on-Trent	42.6
Warrington	26.9

Book Lending Stock per 1,000 population

York's performance is **third quartile,** up from lower quartile last year. York has always had a relatively small but hard-working book stock - we don't carry unpopular stock.
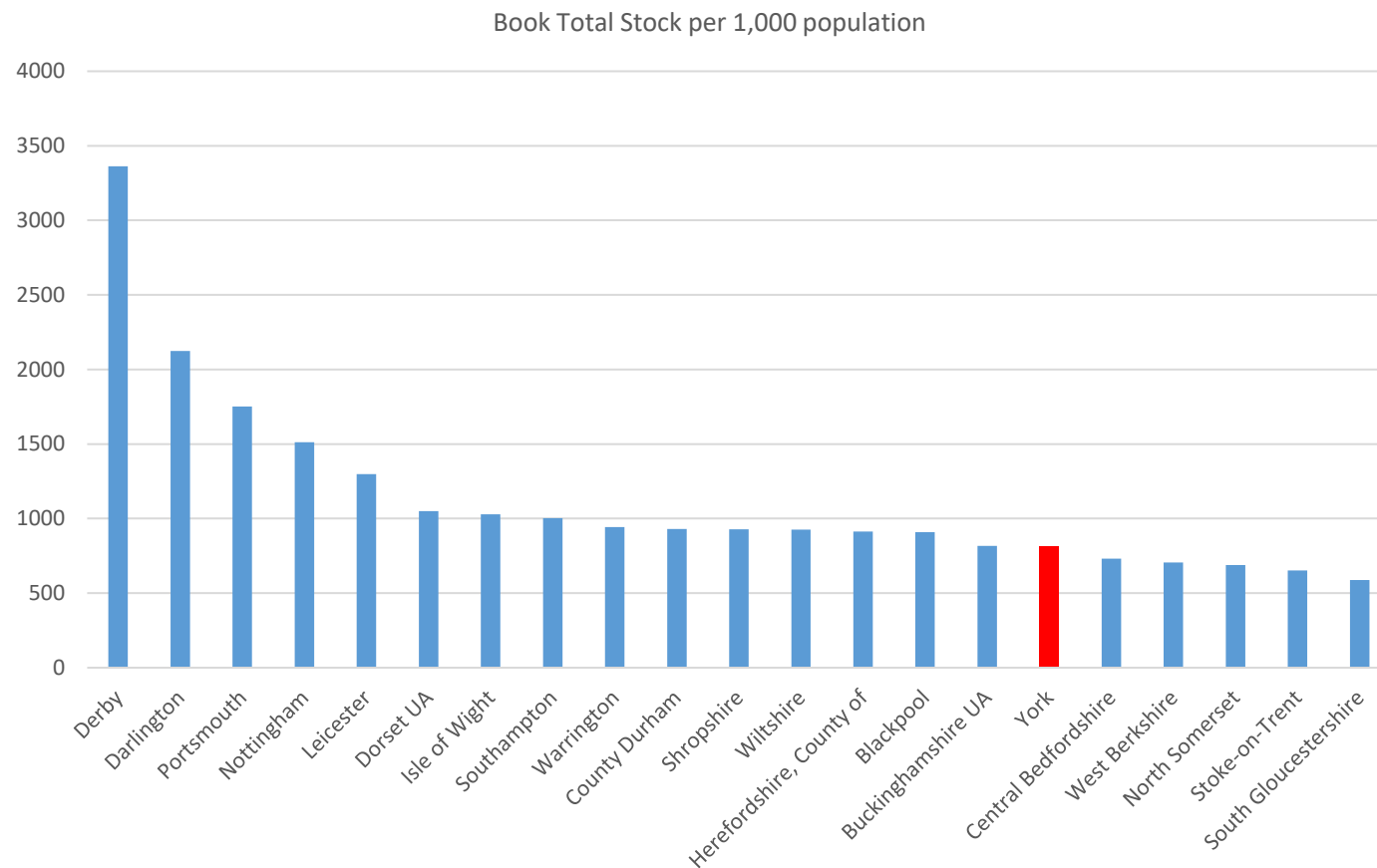
Authority (21 of 55 UAs)	Book Lending Stock per 1,000 population
Portsmouth	1345.5
Leicester	1218.8
Nottingham	1073.7
Dorset UA	982.4
Isle of Wight	978.0
Warrington	854.7
Blackpool	835.8
Southampton	753.2
Herefordshire, County of	745.3
Shropshire	741.6
Buckinghamshire UA	716.0
Central Bedfordshire	699.3
West Berkshire	674.8
Stoke-on-Trent	652.2
York	648.3
Wiltshire	625.7
North Somerset	571.9
South Gloucestershire	558.0
County Durham	501.7
Darlington	402.9
Derby	330.2

Book Lending Stock per 1,000 population

Book Total Stock per 1,000 population

York's performance is **third quartile**. This is a very similar measure to the above, but with reference stock included. eBooks etc. do not form part of this measure.
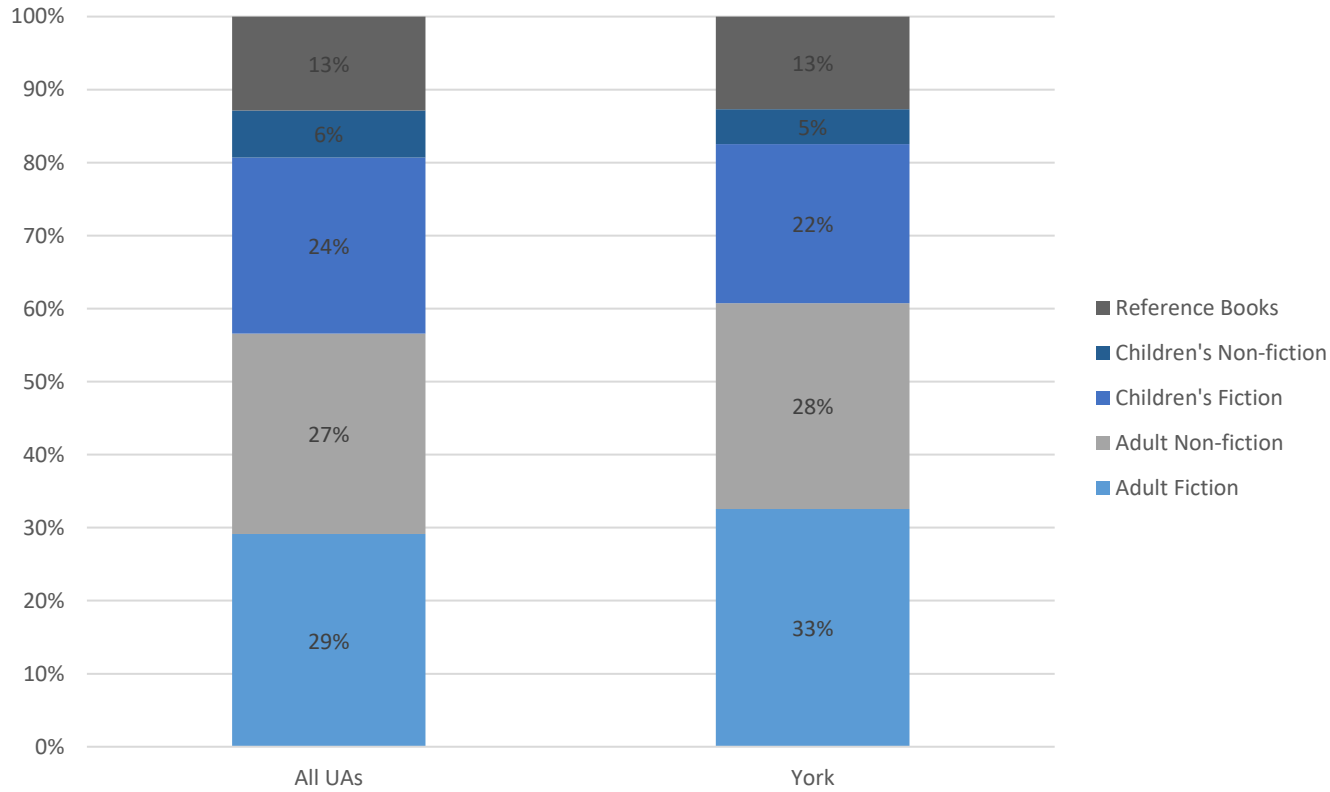
Authority (21 of 55 UAs)	Book Total Stock per 1,000 population
Derby	3363.6
Darlington	2123.0
Portsmouth	1750.7
Nottingham	1511.2
Leicester	1297.8
Dorset UA	1050.0
Isle of Wight	1029.7
Southampton	1003.7
Warrington	942.9
County Durham	930.9
Shropshire	929.0
Wiltshire	926.3
Herefordshire, County of	912.7
Blackpool	909.3
Buckinghamshire UA	815.9
York	811.3
Central Bedfordshire	730.7
West Berkshire	706.1
North Somerset	687.9
Stoke-on-Trent	652.2
South Gloucestershire	588.5

Book Total Stock per 1,000 population

Breakdown of Lending Stock

York's stock breakdown is weighted slightly more towards Adult and less towards Children compared to UAs as a whole, but the difference is fairly slight.

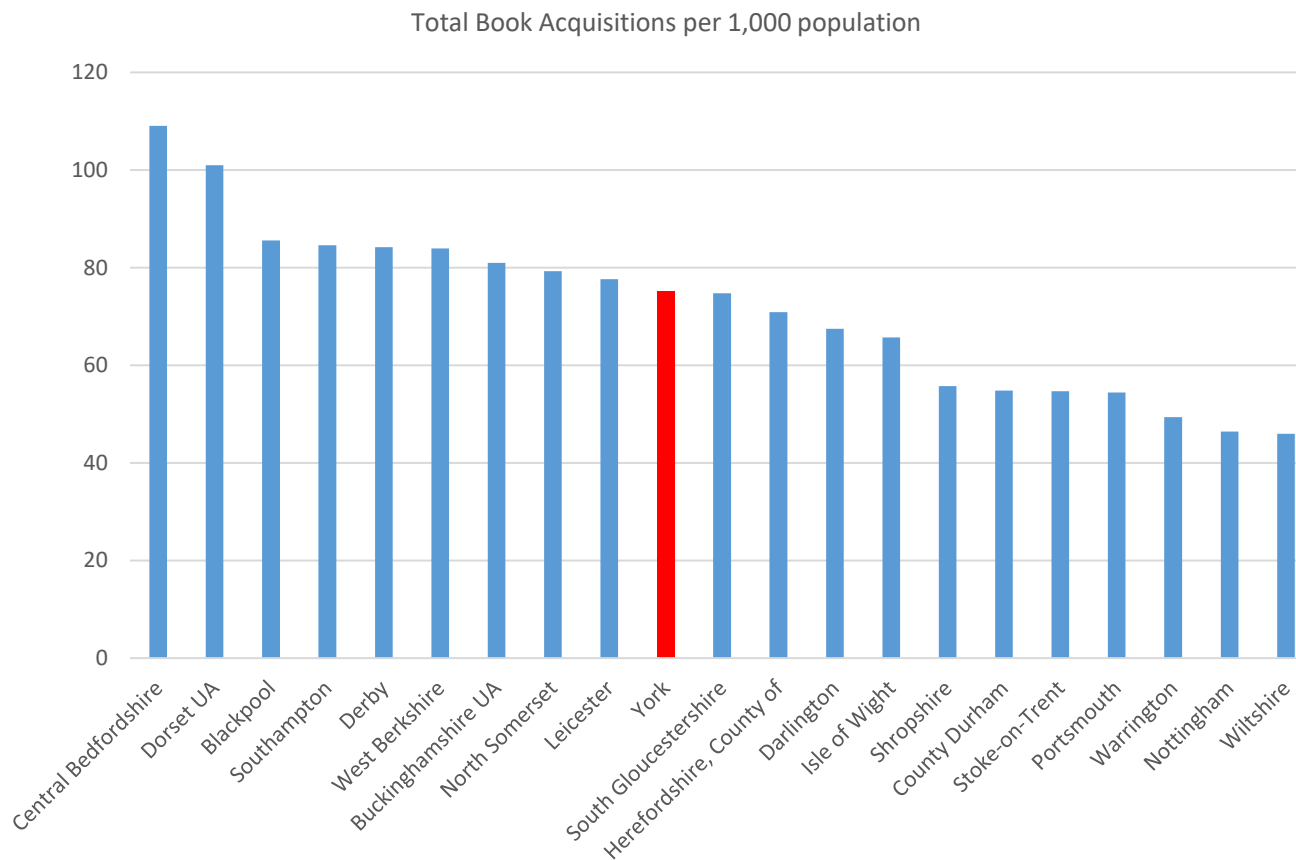| Category	All UAs	York
Adult Fiction	29%	33%
Adult Non-fiction	27%	28%
Children's Fiction	24%	22%
Children's Non-fiction	6%	5%
Reference Books	13%	13%

Total Book Acquisitions per 1,000 population

York's performance was just above the median for this measure, **second quartile**

This measure does not include acquisitions of eBooks, which was particularly pertinent in 21/22, only physical books

Authority (21 of 55 UAs)	Total Book Acquisitions per 1,000 population
Central Bedfordshire	109.1
Dorset UA	101.0
Blackpool	85.6
Southampton	84.6
Derby	84.2
West Berkshire	83.9
Buckinghamshire UA	81.0
North Somerset	79.3
Leicester	77.6
York	75.2
South Gloucestershire	74.7
Herefordshire, County of	70.9
Darlington	67.4
Isle of Wight	65.7
Shropshire	55.7
County Durham	54.8
Stoke-on-Trent	54.7
Portsmouth	54.4
Warrington	49.4
Nottingham	46.4
Wiltshire	45.9

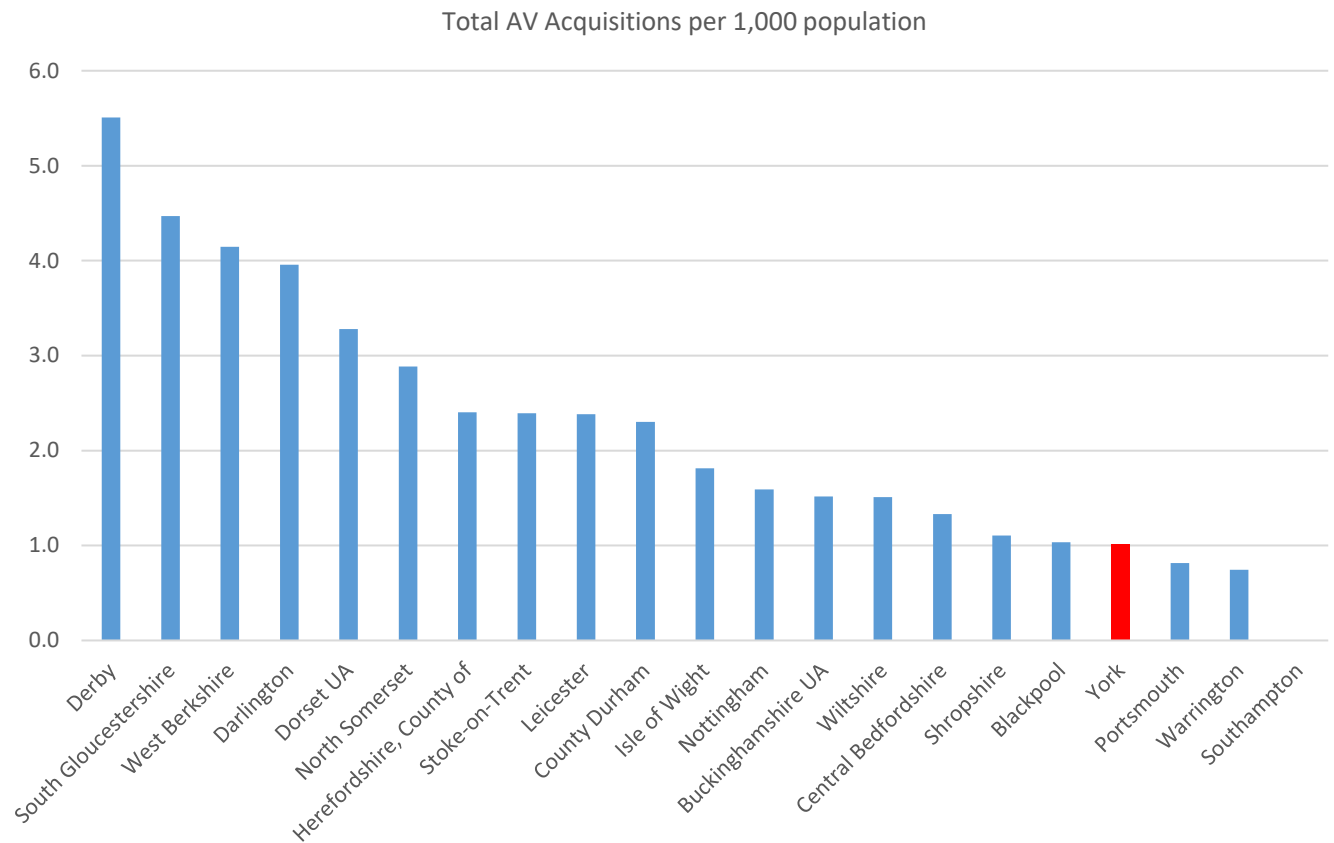Total Book Acquisitions per 1,000 population

Total AV Acquisitions per 1,000 population

York's performance was **bottom quartile** for this measure, which includes only physical audiobooks not eAudiobooks.

Our audience have largely transitioned to borrowing eAudiobooks in preference to physical audiobooks, but there are still customers using physical audiobooks, some of whom have accessibility needs. Explore faces a challenge to allocate sufficient budget to both formats given the high price of these items.
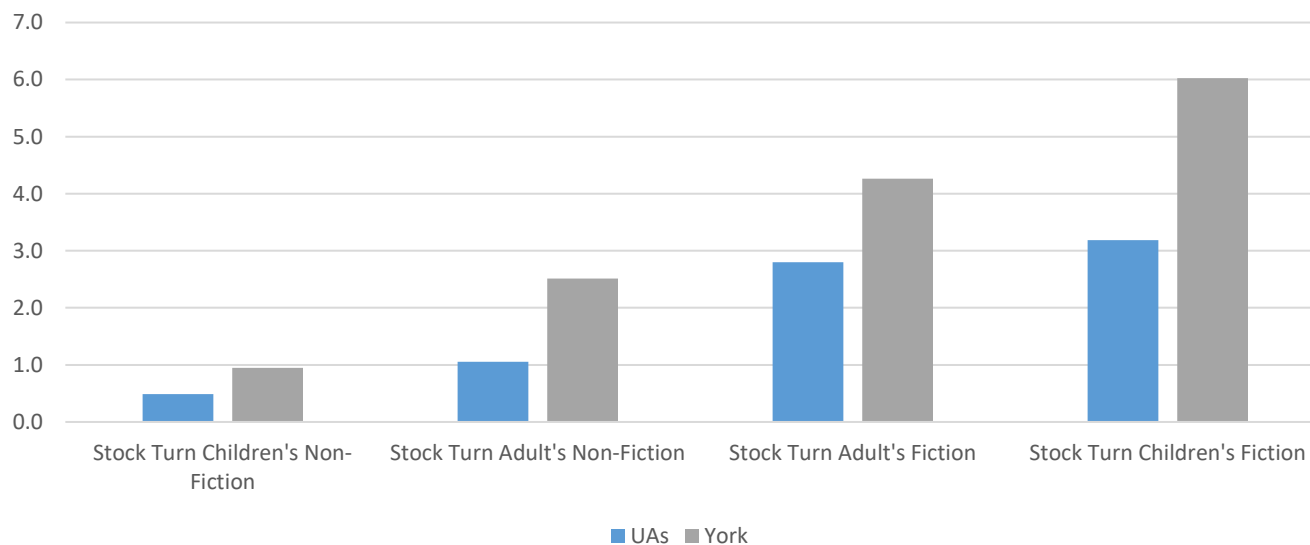
Authority (21 of 55 UAs)	Total AV Acquisitions per 1,000 population
Derby	5.5
South Gloucestershire	4.5
West Berkshire	4.1
Darlington	4.0
Dorset UA	3.3
North Somerset	2.9
Herefordshire, County of	2.4
Stoke-on-Trent	2.4
Leicester	2.4
County Durham	2.3
Isle of Wight	1.8
Nottingham	1.6
Buckinghamshire UA	1.5
Wiltshire	1.5
Central Bedfordshire	1.3
Shropshire	1.1
Blackpool	1.0
York	1.0
Portsmouth	0.8
Warrington	0.7
Southampton	0.0

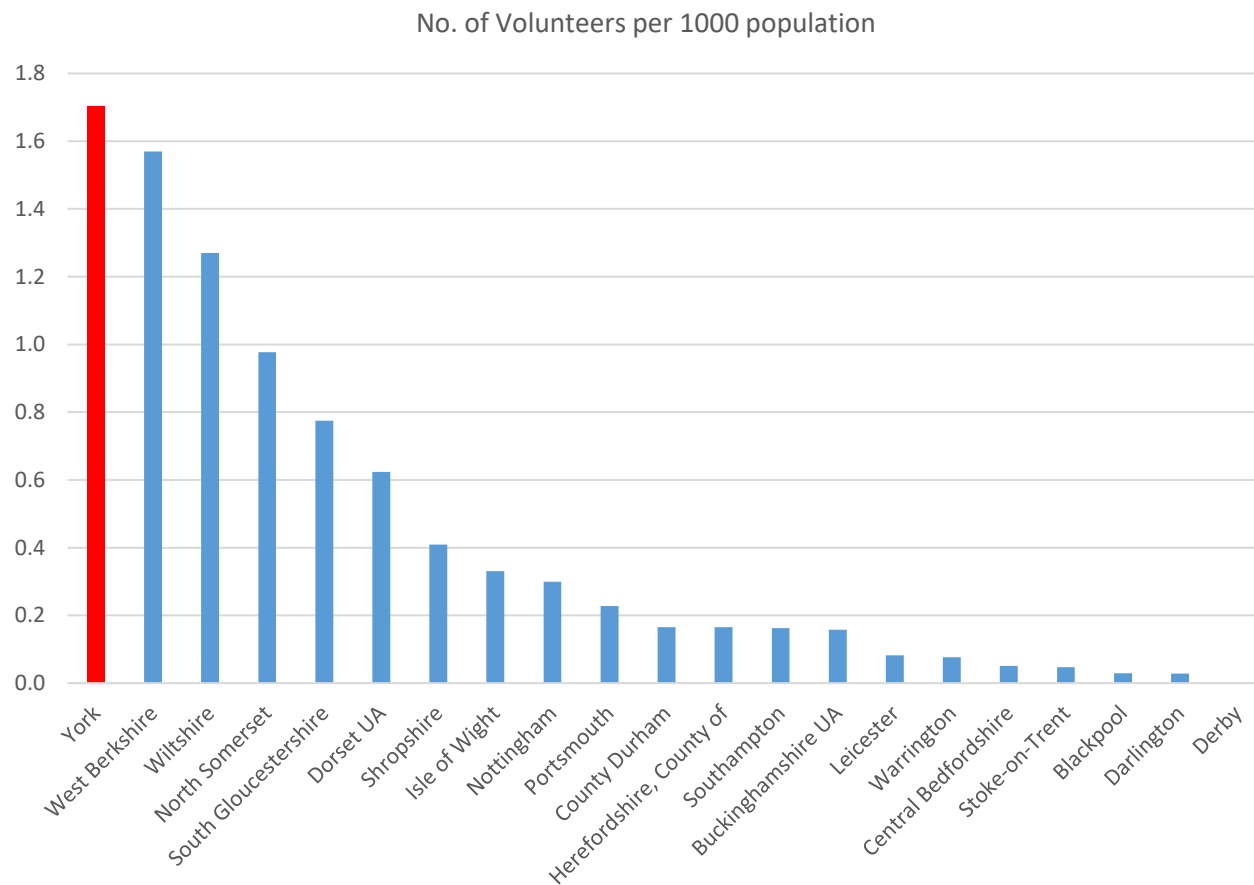Total AV Acquisitions per 1,000 population

Stock Turn

Stock turn is a measure of how hard the stock is working, average issues per item per year. In all cases our stock turn is considerably above the average across Unitary Authorities. It is not possible to calculate quartile positions for stock turn as CIPFA has not made the data available at authority level.

Category	UAs	York
Stock Turn Children's Non-Fiction	0.49	0.95
Stock Turn Adult's Non-Fiction	1.06	2.51
Stock Turn Adult's Fiction	2.80	4.26
Stock Turn Children's Fiction	3.19	6.02

Number of Volunteers per 1000 population

York's performance is once again **upper quartile** and top, as in previous years

No. of Volunteers per 1000 population

Authority (21 of 55 UAs)	No. of Volunteers per 1000 population
York	1.70
West Berkshire	1.57
Wiltshire	1.27
North Somerset	0.98
South Gloucestershire	0.77
Dorset UA	0.62
Shropshire	0.41
Isle of Wight	0.33
Nottingham	0.30
Portsmouth	0.23
County Durham	0.17
Herefordshire, County of	0.16
Southampton	0.16
Buckinghamshire UA	0.16
Leicester	0.08
Warrington	0.08
Central Bedfordshire	0.05
Stoke-on-Trent	0.05
Blackpool	0.03
Darlington	0.03
Derby	0.00