LGBF 2021-22: Scottish Borders

Elected Members Briefing

March 2023

LGBF Background

- Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) launched in 2013, and reflects a commitment by SOLACE (Scotland) to **develop better measurement/comparable data as a catalyst for improving services** and enhancing public accountability across local government.
- Publicly reporting LGBF is a **statutory requirement** for all authorities; results and use of the LGBF is assessed during Best Value audits
- Framework is constructed predominantly from **measures already collected** by Scottish Government, CIFPA etc. for other purposes
- New to the LGBF for 2021-22:
  - CORP9 - % of Crisis Grant decisions within 1 day
  - CORP10 - % of CCG Grant Decisions within 15 days
  - CORP11 - The proportion of SWF Budget Spent
  - CORP12 - The Proportion of DHP Funding Spend

Presentation of Data

- National Online tool presents our position relative to ALL local authorities
- Valuable to look at our position relative to other similar Local Authorities (FAMILY GROUP)- now part of the tool too

"Place" Services	**"People" Services**
Aberdeenshire	Angus
Argyll & Bute	Argyll & Bute
Dumfries & Galloway	East Lothian
Eilean Siar	Highland
Highland	Midlothian
Orkney Islands	Moray
Scottish Borders	Scottish Borders
Shetland Islands	Stirling

Scottish Borders　FG Median　Scotland

LGBF Trends – Indicators

	CHILDREN'S SERVICES
CHN1	Cost Per Primary School Pupil
CHN2	Cost per Secondary School Pupil
CHN3	Cost per Pre-School Education Registration
CHN4	% of Pupils Gaining 5+ Awards at Level 5
CHN5	% of Pupils Gaining 5+ Awards at Level 6
CHN6	% of Pupils from Deprived Areas Gaining 5+ Awards at Level 5 (SIMD)
CHN7	% of Pupils from Deprived Areas Gaining 5+ Awards at Level 6 (SIMD)
CHN8a	The Gross Cost of "Children Looked After" in Residential Based Services per Child per Week
CHN8b	The Gross Cost of "Children Looked After" in a Community Setting per Child per Week
CHN9	% of children being looked after in the community
CHN10	% of Adults Satisfied with Local Schools
CHN11	Proportion of Pupils Entering Positive Destinations
CHN12a	Overall Average Total Tariff
CHN12b	Average Total Tariff SIMD quintile 1
CHN12c	Average total tariff SIMD quintile 2
CHN12d	Average total tariff SIMD quintile 3
CHN12e	Average total tariff SIMD quintile 4
CHN12f	Average total tariff SIMD quintile 5
CHN13a	% of P1, P4 and P7 pupils combined achieving expected CFE Level in Literacy
CHN13b	% of P1, P4 and P7 pupils combined achieving expected CFE Level in Numeracy
CHN14a	Literacy Attainment Gap
CHN14b	Numeracy Attainment Gap
CHN17	% of children meeting developmental milestones
CHN18	% of funded early years provision which is graded good/better
CHN19a	School attendance rate
CHN19b	School attendance rate (Looked After Children)
CHN20a	School exclusion rates (per 1,000 pupils)
CHN20b	School exclusion rates (per 1,000 looked after pupils)
CHN21	Participation rate for 16-19 year olds (per 100)
CHN22	% of child protection re-registrations within 18 months
CHN23	% LAC with more than 1 placement in the last year (Aug-July)
CHN24	% of children living in poverty (after housing costs)

	CORPORATE SERVICES
CORP1	Support services as a % of total gross expenditure
CORP3b	% of the highest paid 5% employees who are women
CORP3c	The gender pay gap (%)
CORP4	The cost per dwelling of collecting council tax
CORP6a	Sickness absence days per teacher
CORP6b	Sickness absence days per employee (non-teacher)
CORP7	% of income due from council tax received
CORP8	% of invoices sampled that were paid within 30 days
CORP9	% of Crisis Grant Decisions within 1 day
CORP10	% CCG Grant Decisions within 15 Days
CORP11	Proportion of SWF Funding Spent
CORP12	Proportion of DHP Funding Spent
CORP-ASSET1	% of operational buildings that are suitable for their current use
CORP-ASSET2	% of internal floor area of operational buildings in satisfactory condition

	ADULT SOCIAL CARE
SW1	Home care costs per hour for people aged 65 or over
SW2	Self Directed Support spend on adults 18+ as a % of total social work spend on adults 18+
SW3a	% of people aged 65 and over with long-term care needs receiving personal care at home
SW4b	% of adults supported at home who agree that their support had an impact in improving or maintaining their quality of life
SW4c	% of adults supported at home who agree that they are supported to live as independently as possible
SW4d	% of adults supported at home who agree that they had a say in how their support was provided
SW4e	% of carers who feel supported to continue in their caring role
SW5	Residential costs per week per resident for people aged 65 or over
SW6	Rate of readmission to hospital within 28 days per 1,000 discharges
SW7	Proportion of care services graded 'good' (4) or better in Care Inspectorate inspections
SW8	Number of days people spend in hospital when they are ready to be discharged, per 1,000 pop (75+)

LGBF Trends - Indicators

	CULTURE AND LEISURE SERVICES
C&L1	Cost per attendance at sports facilities
C&L2	Cost per library visit
C&L3	Cost per visit to Museums & Galleries
C&L4	Cost of parks & open spaces per 1,000 population
C&L5a	% of adults satisfied with libraries
C&L5b	% of adults satisfied with parks and open spaces
C&L5c	% of adults satisfied with museums and galleries
C&L5d	% of adults satisfied with leisure facilities

	ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
ENV1a	Net cost of waste collection per premise
ENV2a	Net cost of waste disposal per premise
ENV3a	Net cost of street cleaning per 1,000 population
ENV3c	Street Cleanliness Score
ENV4a	Cost of roads per kilometre
ENV4b	% of A Class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment
ENV4c	% of B Class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment
ENV4d	% of C Class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment
ENV4e	% of U Class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment
ENV5	Cost of Trading Standards and environmental health per 1,000 population
ENV5a	Cost of Trading Standards per 1000
ENV5b	Cost of environmental health per 1,000 population
ENV6	% of total household waste arising that is recycled
ENV7a	% of adults satisfied with refuse collection
ENV7b	% of adults satisfied with street cleaning

	CLIMATE CHANGE
CLIM1	CO2 emissions area wide per capita
CLIM2	CO2 emissions area wide: emissions within scope of LA per capita

	HOUSING SERVICES
HSN1b	Gross rent arrears as a % of rent due
HSN2	% of rent due in the year that was lost due to voids
HSN3	% of council dwellings meeting Scottish Housing Standards
HSN4b	Average number of days taken to complete non-emergency repairs
HSN5a	% of council dwellings that are energy efficient

	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
ECON1	% of unemployed people assisted into work from council operated / funded employability programmes
ECON2	Cost of planning and building standards Per Planning Application
ECON3	Average time per business and industry planning application (weeks)
ECON4	% of procurement spend spent on local enterprises
ECON5	No of business gateway start-ups per 10,000 population
ECON6	Investment in of Economic Development & Tourism per 1,000 Population
ECON7	Proportion of people earning less than the real living wage
ECON8	Proportion of properties receiving superfast broadband
ECON9	Town Vacancy Rates
ECON10	Immediately available employment land as a % of total land allocated for employment purposes
ECON11	Gross Value Added (GVA) per capita
ECON12a	Claimant Count as a % of Working Age Population
ECON12b	Claimant Count as a % of 16-24 Population

	FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY
FINSUS1	Total useable reserves as a % of council annual budgeted revenue
FINSUS2	Uncommitted General Fund Balance as a % of council annual budgeted net revenue
FINSUS3	Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream - General Fund
FINSUS4	Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream - Housing Revenue Account
FINSUS5	Actual outturn as a percentage of budgeted expenditure

LGBF Scotland: Where are we seeing the impact of Covid in LGBF data? (IS Slide)

Children's Services
- Educational Attainment
- Pupil Attendance
- Early Years Quality Ratings
- Positive Destinations
- CP Re-registrations & placement stability

Culture & Leisure
- Culture & Leisure usage
- Digital Shift

Economic Development & Planning
- Claimant Count – Working Age & 16-25
- Employment Support & Business Start ups
- Planning applications & processing times

Corporate
- LG Staff Absence
- Council Tax Collection
- Support Services

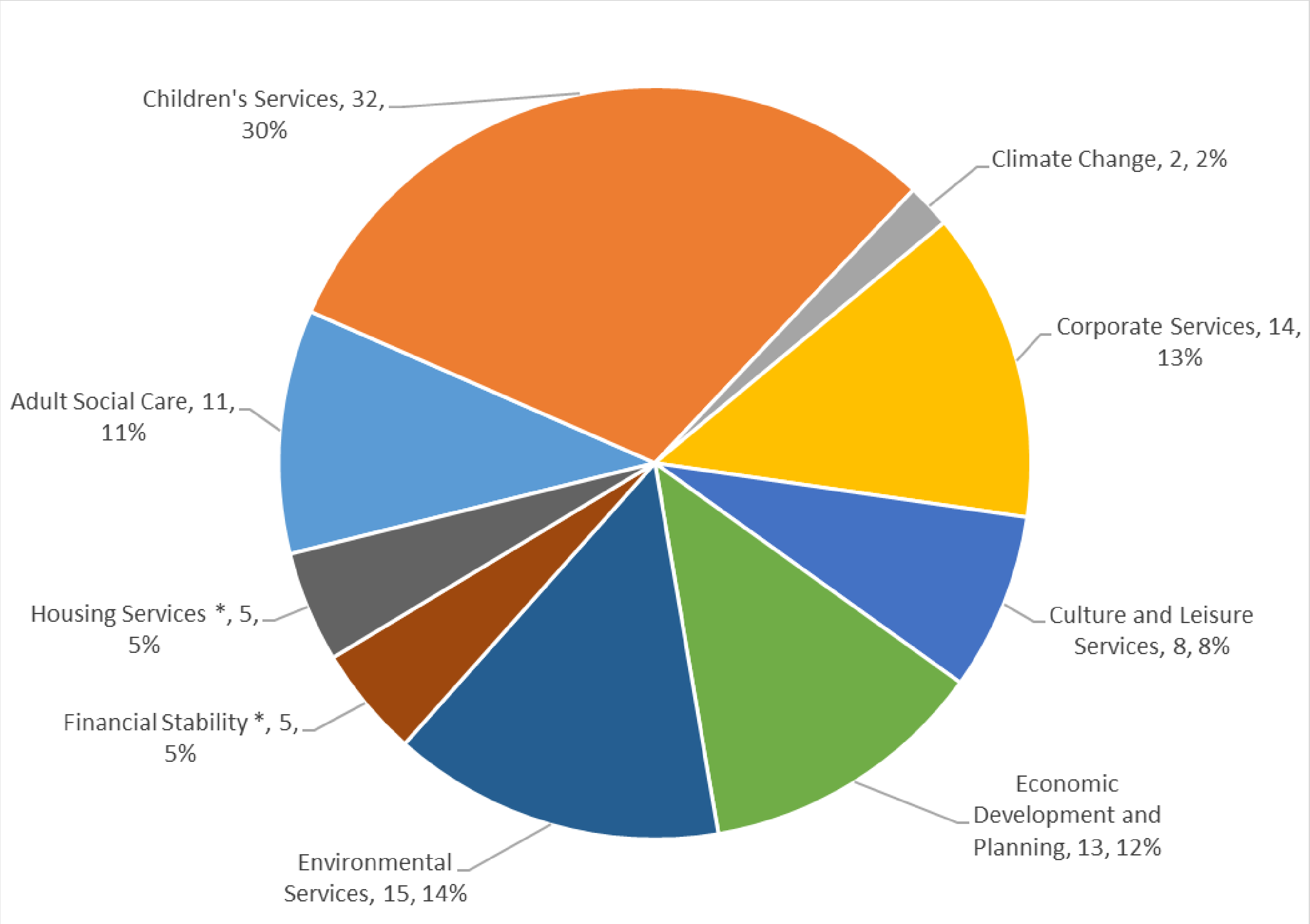
Housing
- Housing Quality
- Housing Voids & Repairs
- Rent Arrears

Adult Social Care
- Home Care & Residential Care
- Adult Care Quality Ratings
- Delayed Discharges
- Hospital Readmissions

Environmental
- Recycling
- Street Cleanliness

Overall, there has been 5% reduction in performance across the LGBF during Covid

LGBF Indicators for 2021-22 by Service Area for SBC

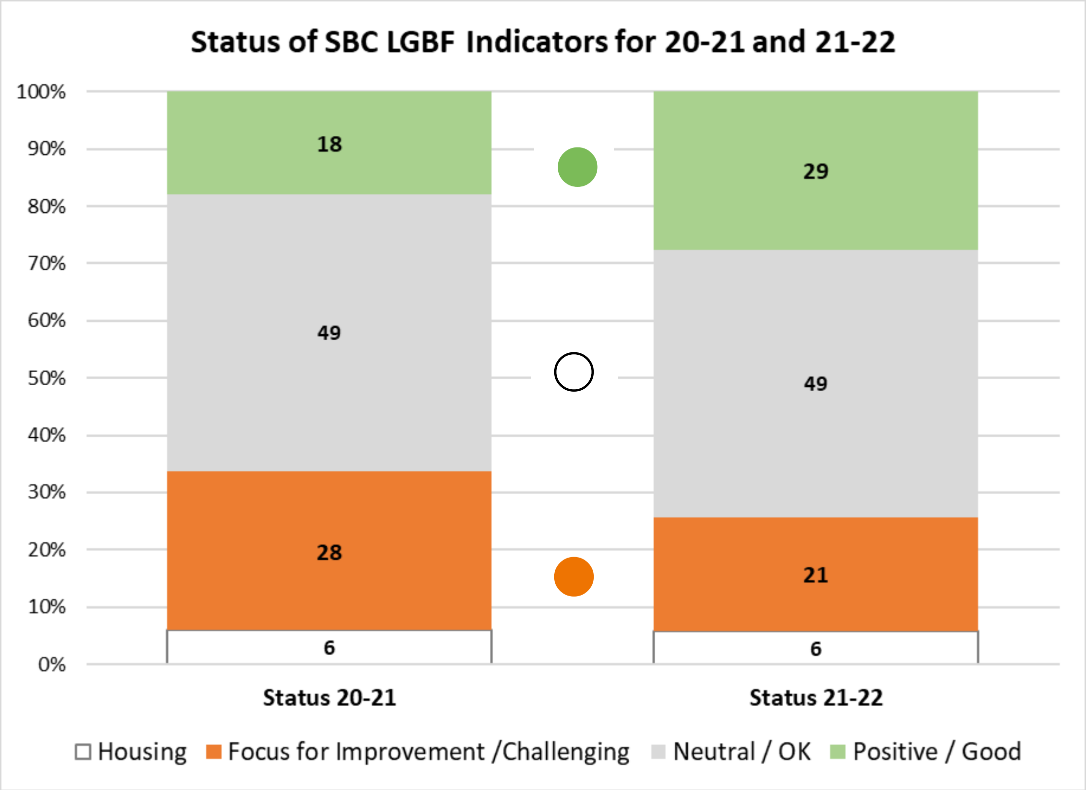


There are 105 indicators in the 2021-22 LGBF, although the Scottish Borders has 99*.

Children's Services has 30% of indicators, followed by Environmental Services, Corporate Services, Economic Development and Planning and Adult Social Care.

*Scottish Borders Council does not have Housing Services and Financial Stability has one indicator for housing.

Scottish Borders: LGBF Indicator Status for 2020-21 and 2021-22



- 101 indictors in 2020-21
- **105** indicators in 2021-22

- **10% more** SBC indicators have a **positive** / good status (from 18 to 29).
- In 2021-22 the number of indicators neutral / OK for the Scottish Borders remained at 49.
- **8% fewer** SBC indicators have a focus for improvement / **challenging** status (from 28 to 21).

Scottish Borders: LGBF 2021-22

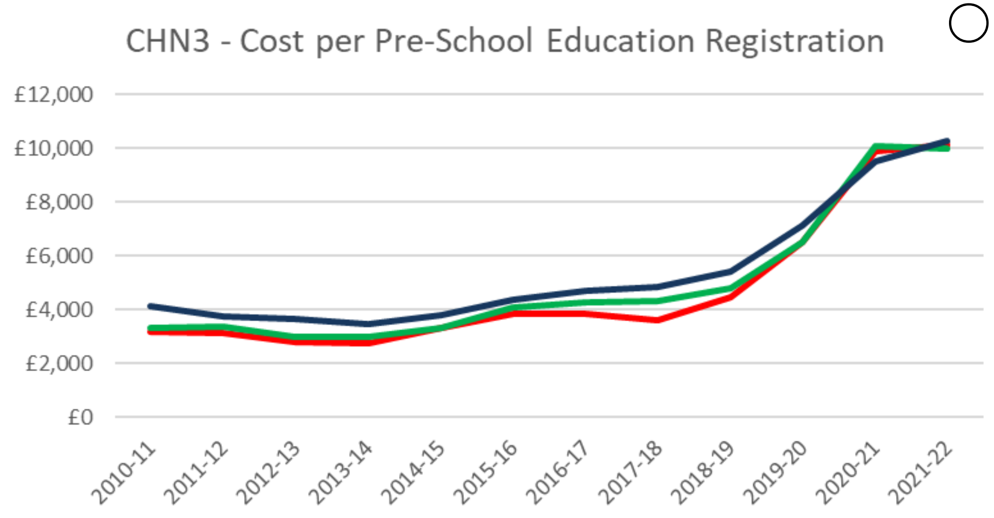
Key Progress

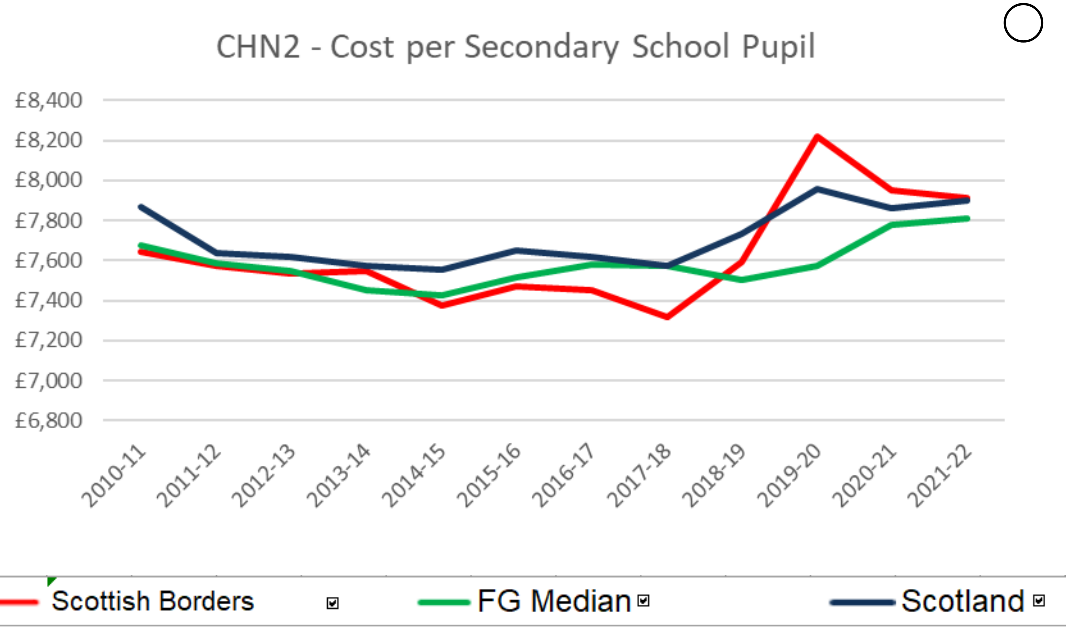
- Educational Attainment for all
- School leavers entering positive destinations
- Participation rate for 16-19 year olds
- No child protection re-registrations within 18 months
- Payment of invoices
- Gender Pay Gap reduced
- % of people aged 65 and over with long-term care needs who receiving personal care at home
- Recovery from the impact of Covid-19 for sport facilities, library and museums/ galleries
- Household waste recycled
- Street Cleanliness Score
- Time per business and industry planning application
- SBC continues to be financially stable

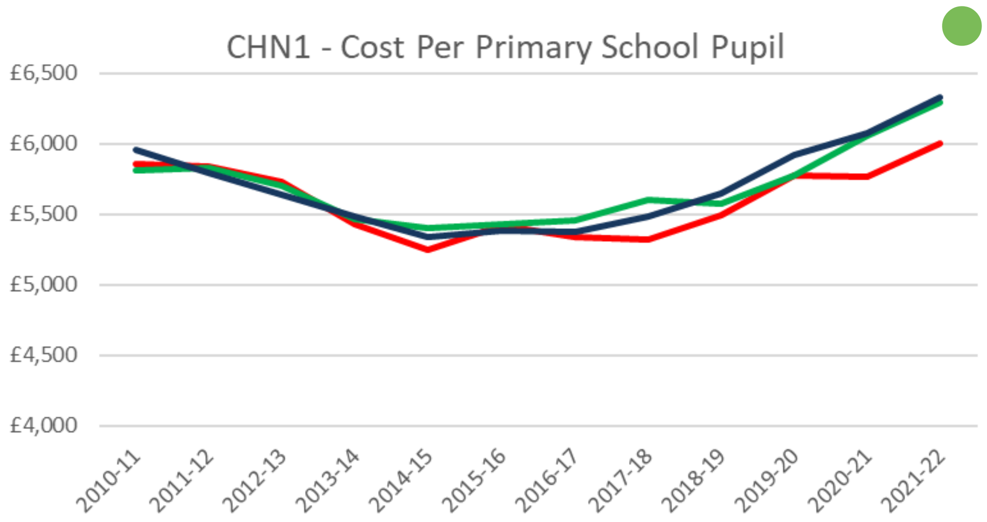
Key Challenges

- Educational Attainment of pupils living in the 20% most deprived areas of Scotland. (Education Gap)
- % of children living in poverty (after housing costs)
- % of children being looked after in the Community
- % of internal floor area of operational buildings in satisfactory condition
- % of adults supported at home who agree that they had a say in how their help, care or support was provided
- % of carers who feel supported to continue in their caring role (similar to Family Group)
- More roads in the Scottish Borders that should be considered for maintenance
- Cost of planning applications
- Proportion of people earning less than the living wage
- Gross Value Added (GVA) per capita
- Meet the target for the Scottish Borders - Net Zero carbon emissions by 2045

Children's Services – Cost per Pupil / Registration



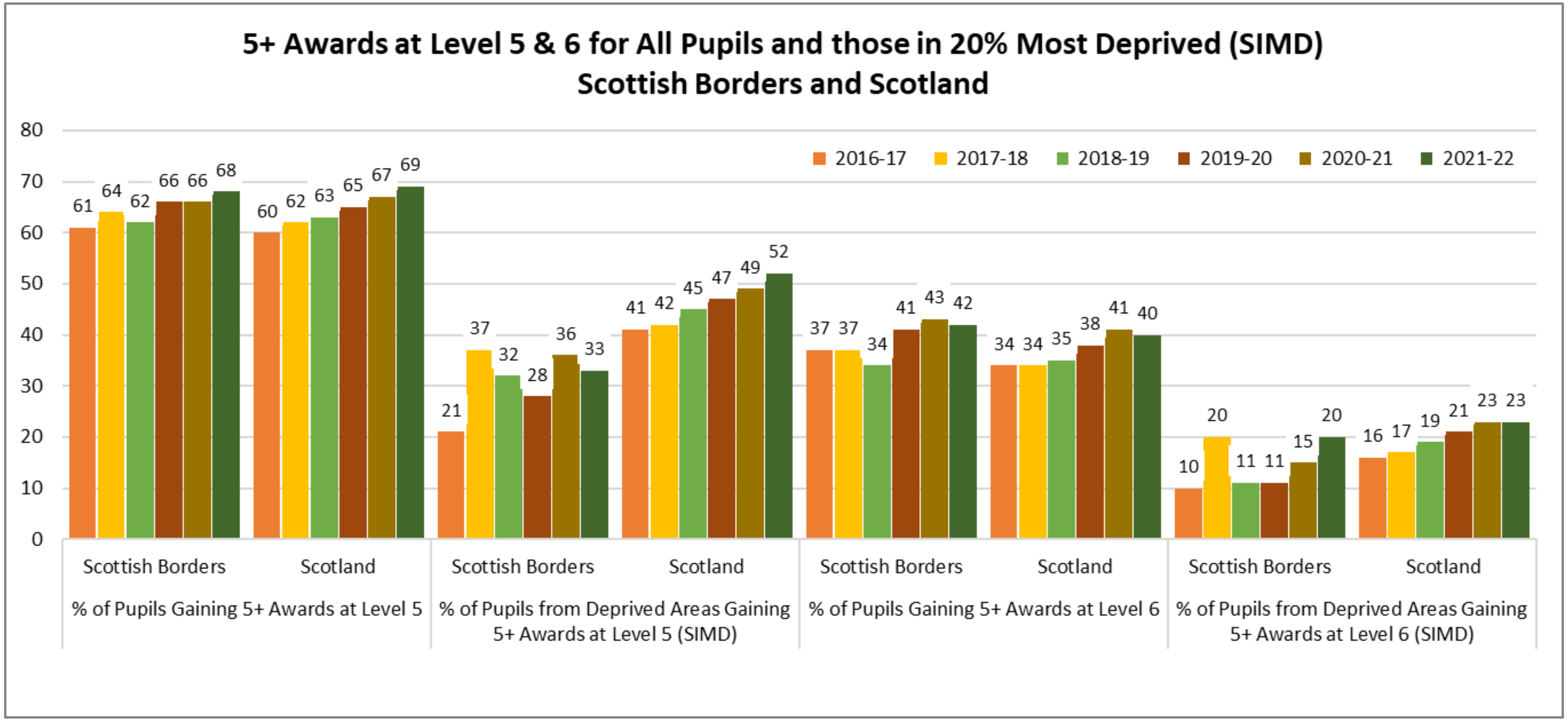




The cost per pupil /registration in the Scottish Borders has generally followed the same trend as Scotland and the Family Group.

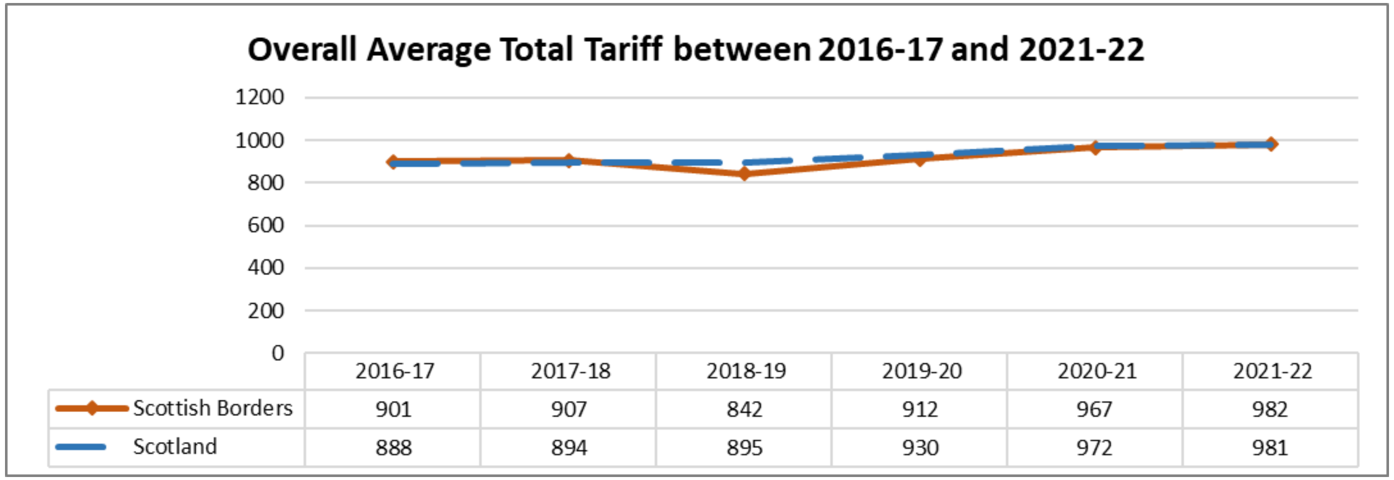
The cost per pre-school registration and primary school has increased. The cost per secondary school pupil has decreased to be similar to Scotland.

Educational Attainment: 5+ Awards at Level 5 & 6

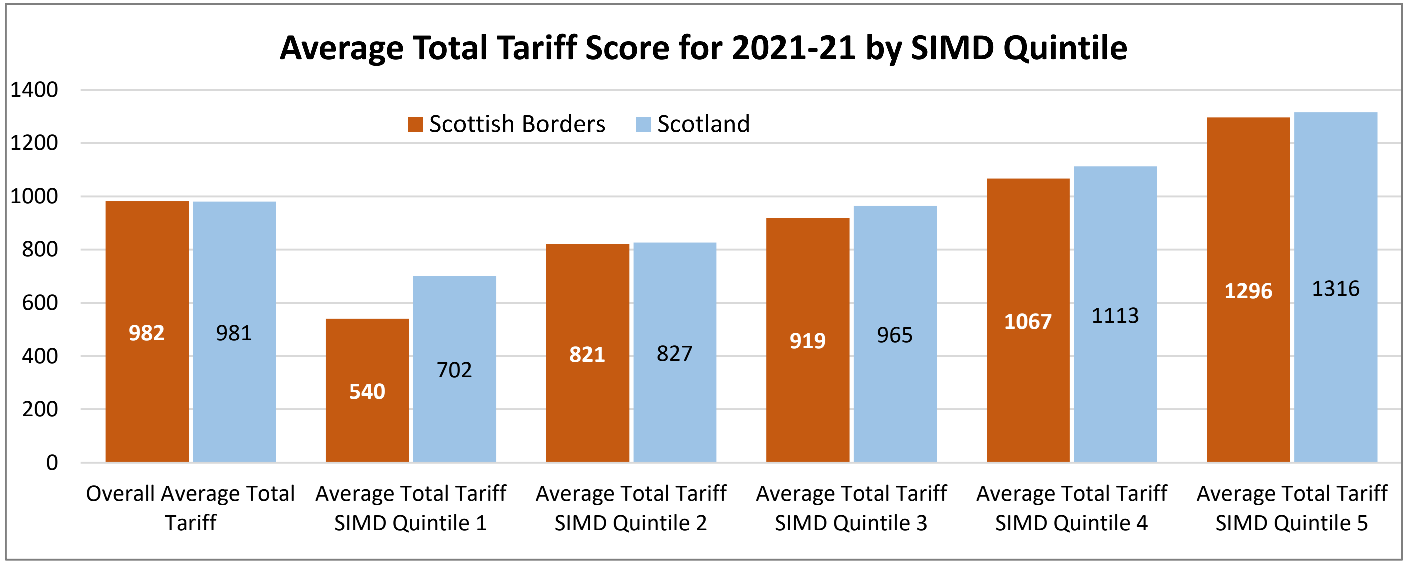


- The educational attainment for those in the 20% most deprived areas continues to be below the level for all pupils in the Scottish Borders similar to Scotland.
- Although the attainment in the Scottish Borders is below the Scotland level for pupils in the 20% most deprived area there has been some improvement between 2016-17 and 2021-22.
Overall pupil attainment in the Scottish Borders is similar to that for Scotland.

Educational Attainment: School Leaver Tariff Scores



	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Scottish Borders	901	907	842	912	967	982
Scotland	888	894	895	930	972	981

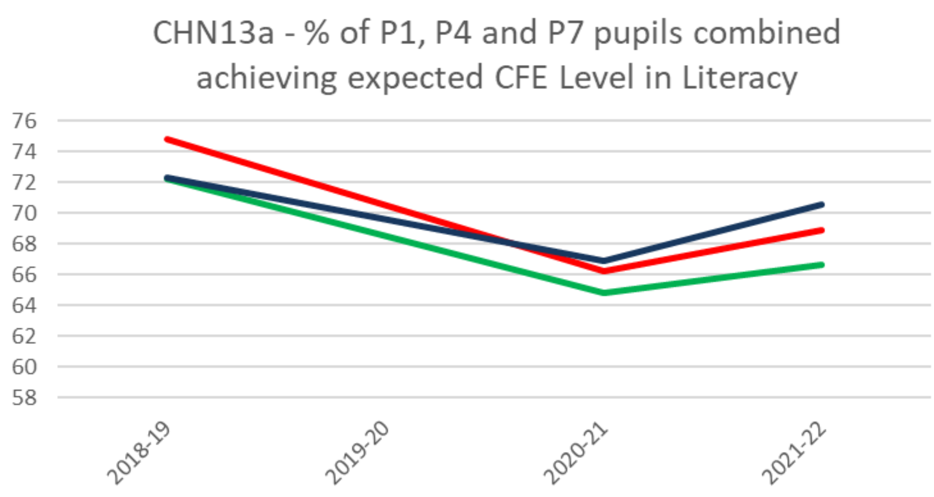


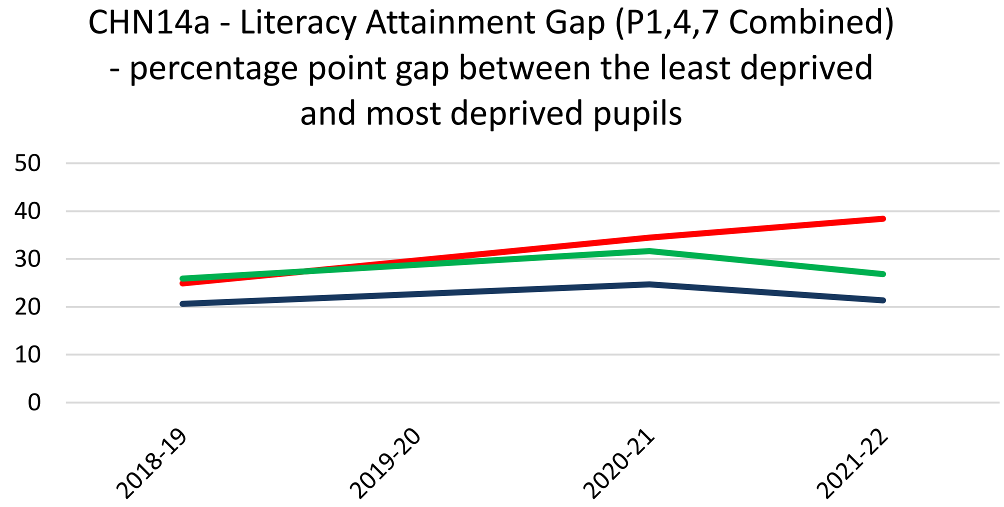
Between 2016-17 and 2021-22 the average Total Tariff score in the Scottish Borders increased by 9%, similar to the 10% increase for Scotland.

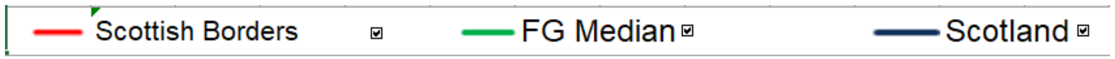
In 2021-22

- Like Scotland the School Leaver tariff for those in the 20% most deprived areas (SIMD Q1) is lower than the tariff scores for the other quintiles.
- For SIMD Q2, Q3, Q4 and Q5 the average total tariff in the Scottish Borders is similar to the level for Scotland.
- However for SIMD Q1 the average tariff score in the Scottish Borders is 30% lower than Scotland's for SIMD Q1.

Children’s Services – P1, P4, P7 Achieving CFE Literacy



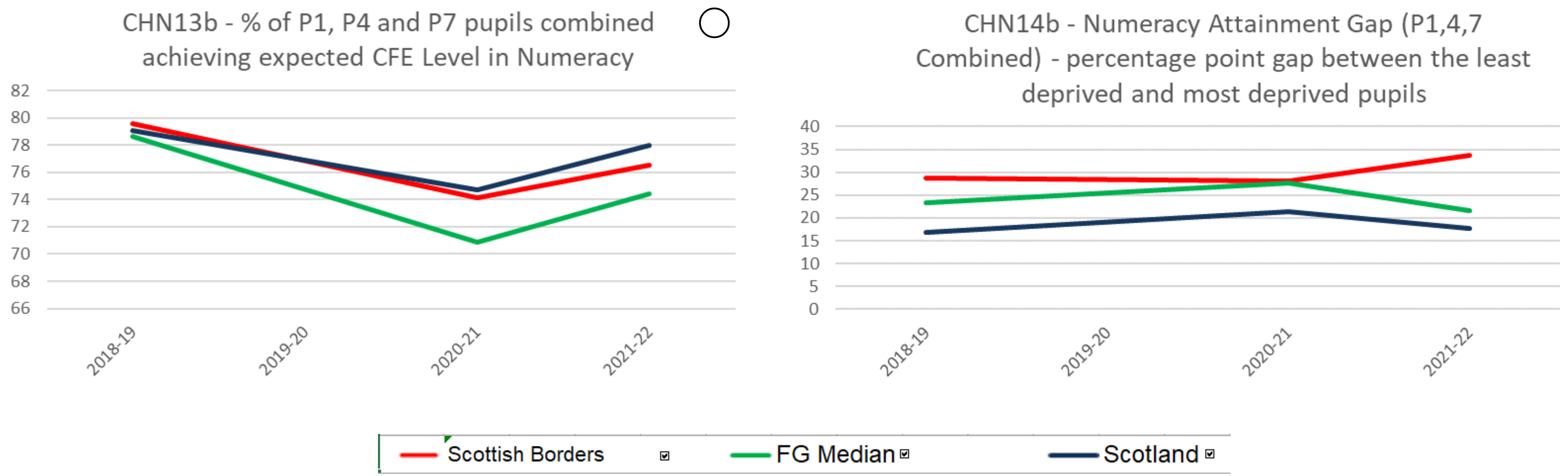




In 2021-22 Scottish Borders (like the family group and Scotland) had an improvement in the percent of P1, P4 and P7 pupils achieving the expect CFE (Curriculum for Excellence) level for Literacy.

The percentage point gap between the least deprived and most deprived pupils increased in the Scottish Borders, in contrast to the family group and Scotland.

Children's Services – P1, P4, P7 Achieving CFE Numeracy



In 2021-22 Scottish Borders (like the family group and Scotland) had an improvement in the percent of P1, P4 and P7 pupils achieving the expect CFE (Curriculum for Excellence) level for Numeracy.

The percentage point gap between the least deprived and most deprived pupils increased in the Scottish Borders, in contrast to the family group and Scotland.

Children's Services – Reflection

Improvement Priorities – Education Improvement Plan 22-23

The National Framework drivers for improvement underpin the strategic priorities outlined below and give a clear direction across all aspects for service improvement.

The key drivers which inform our 2022/23 Improvement Plan are:

- Teacher and practitioner professionalism
- School and Early Learning and Childcare improvement
- Curriculum and Assessment
- Performance Information

Our overarching priority this session is to **ensure the core stretch aims set for the local authority are met in full and the poverty related attainment gap is reduced**. We will achieve this by setting two strategic priorities.

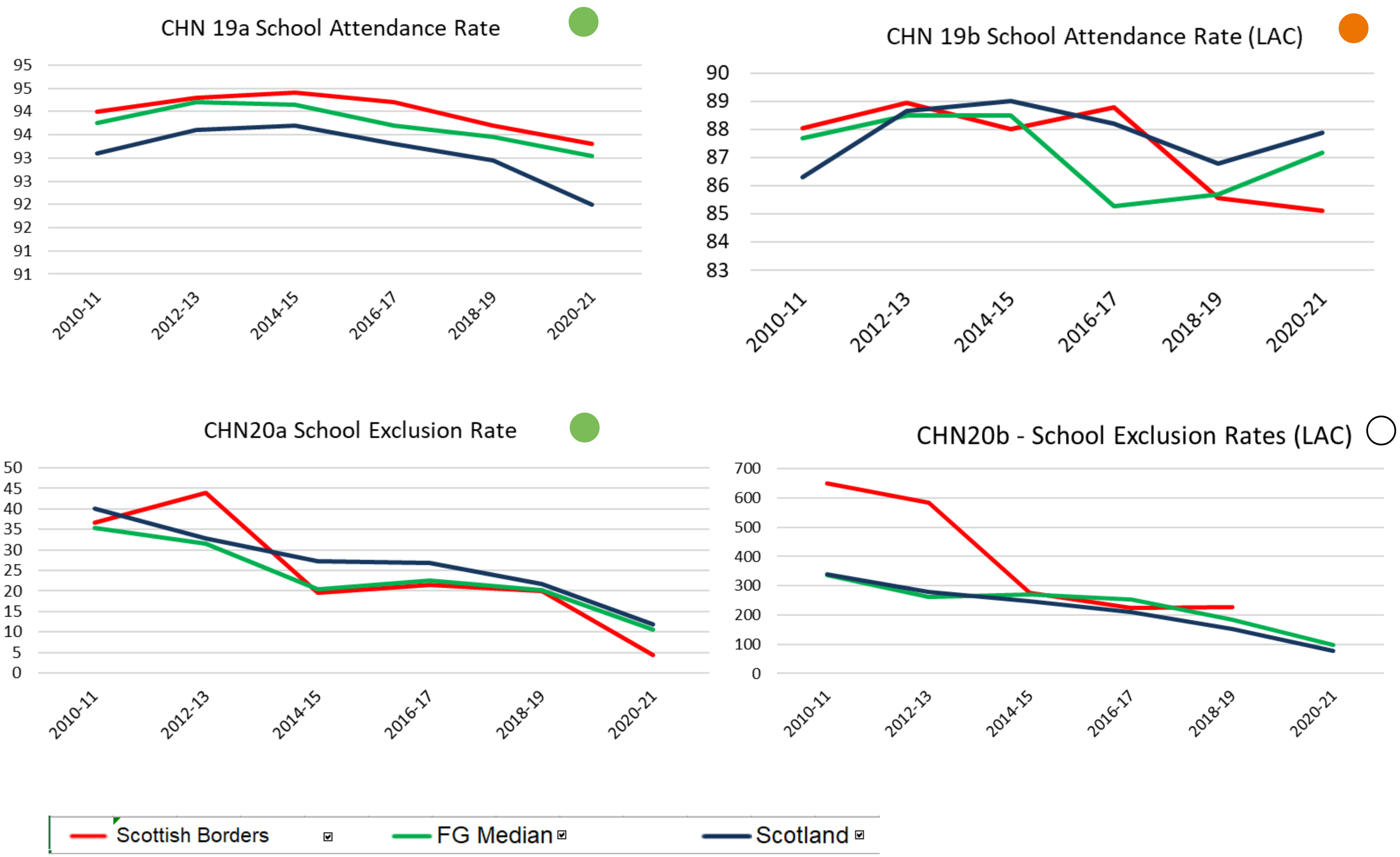
STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1 To raise attainment by ensuring high quality learning, teaching and assessment in all schools and settings.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 To raise attainment through improved inclusion, equity and wellbeing for all children and young people.

How we plan to close the gap

- Focus on ensuring policies and practices are grounded in current legislation and well understood and schools/settings are supported to ensure success of all learners
- Continue to ensure a commitment to nurture and progress rollout of targeted nurture bases
- Support and challenge schools/settings to make best use of Scottish Attainment Challenge funding to close the poverty related attainment gap
- Cluster-based quality assurance approaches to raising attainment for all, closing the gap and achieving school-based stretch aims
- Enhance our quality improvement procedures by introducing a thematic review on closing the attainment gap in our ten schools/settings that contribute to SIMD Quintile 1 data
- Continue improvements made to monitoring and tracking procedures and support for care experienced young people moving to a positive destination

Children's Services – School Attendance and Exclusion Rates

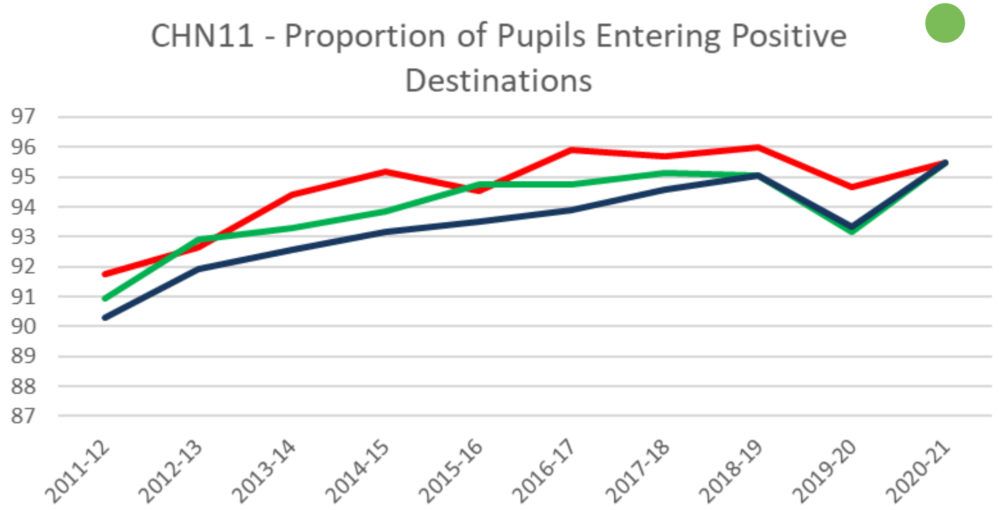


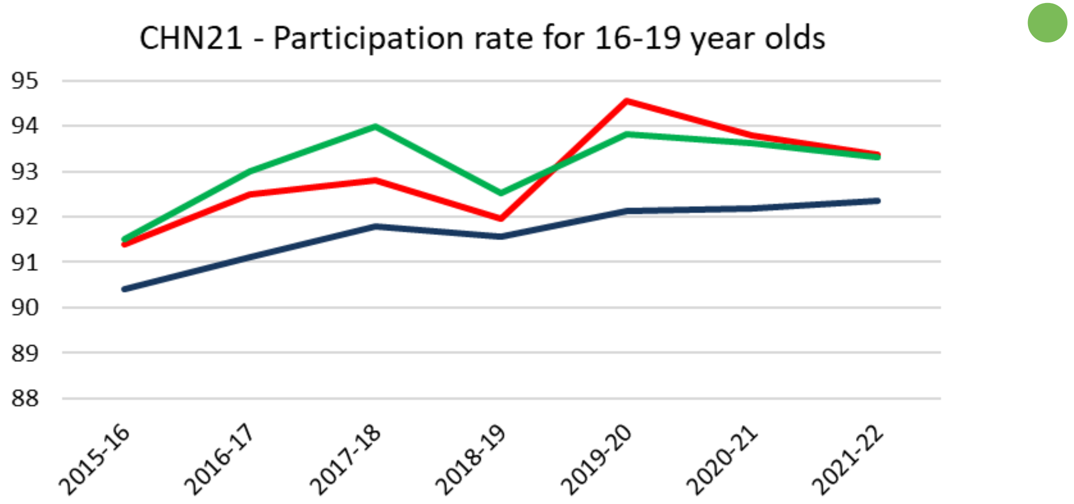
Scottish Borders has consistently had better attendance rates for all pupils however for LAC pupils the attendance rate for the past 2 years has been slightly below the Scottish average.

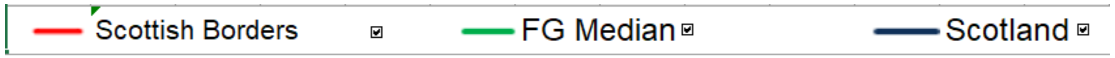
The school exclusion rate in the Scottish Borders dropped in 2014-15 and has continued to reduce. In 2020-21 the exclusion rate for Scottish Borders was lower than both Scotland and the family group.

For LAC pupils in 2020-21 the exclusions rate was not disclosed due to small numbers, similar to five other councils.

Children's Services – Positive Destinations / Participation Rate



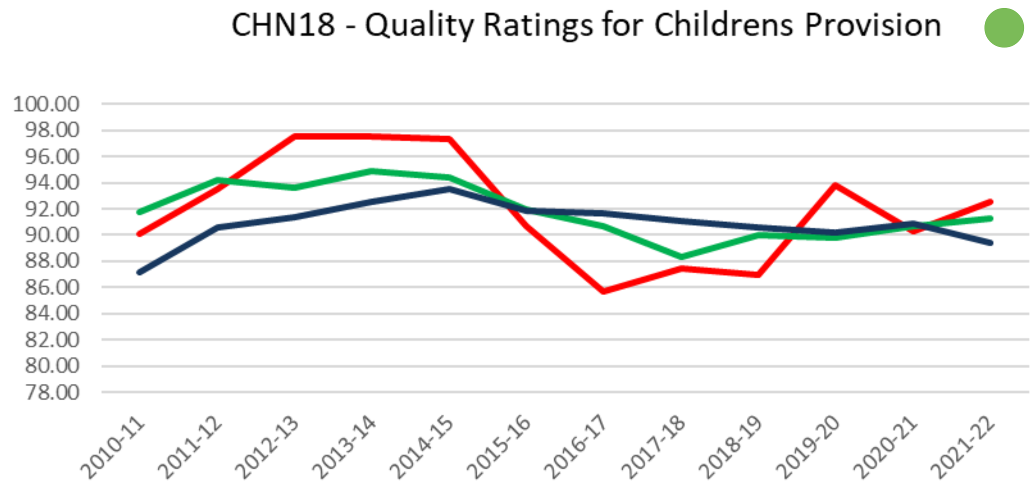


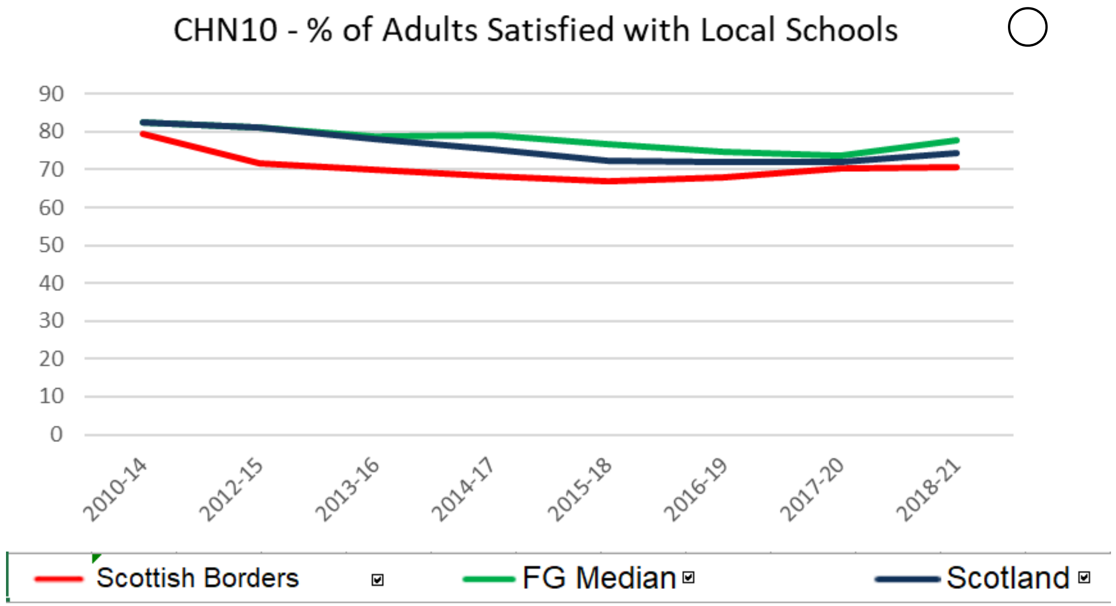


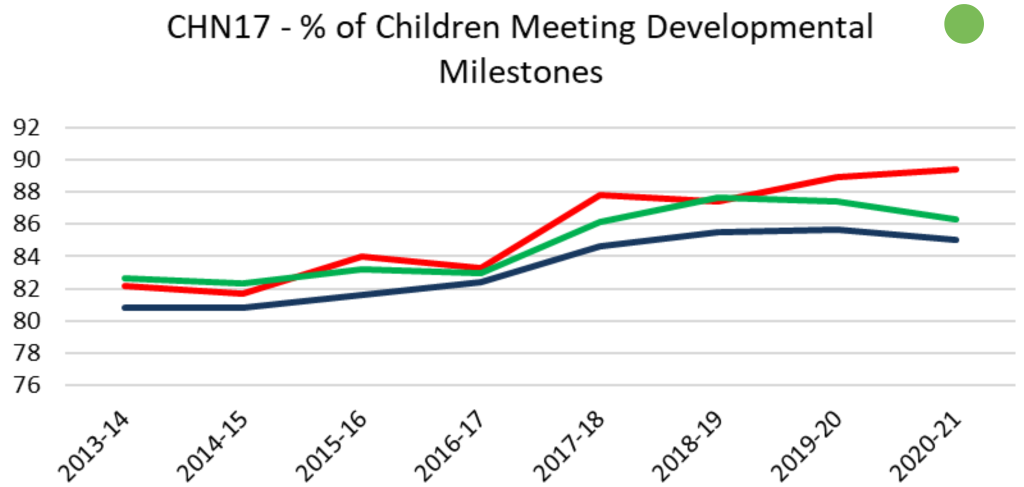
Scottish Borders has consistently had about 95% of school leavers entering positive destination, in 2020-21 95.5% of pupils entered a positive destination the same as Scotland and the family group.

The participation rate for 16-19 year olds in the Scottish Borders has consistently been better than Scotland and similar to the family group. With a participation rate of 93.4% for Scottish Borders compared to 93.3% for the family group.

Children's Services – Early Years Quality Rating / Adults Satisfied with Local Schools / % Children Meeting Developmental Milestones





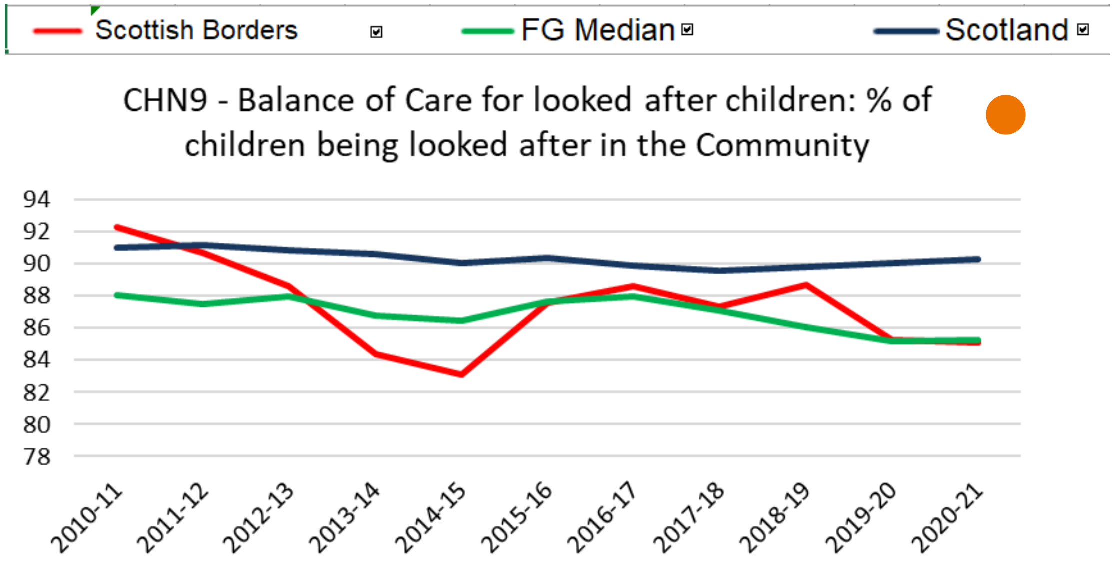


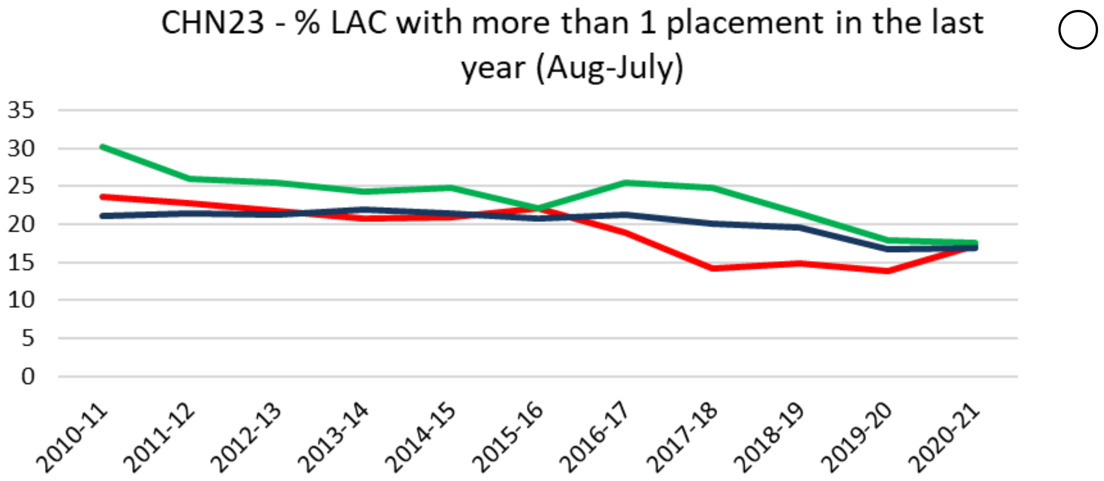
The % of funded early years provision which is graded good / better in the Scottish Borders is similar to both Scotland and the family group.

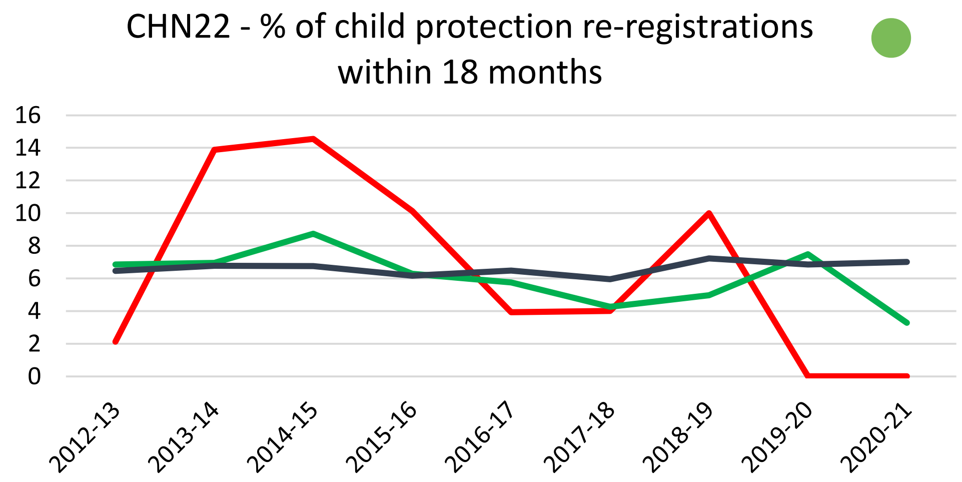
The % of adults satisfied with local schools in the Scottish Borders is similar to the level for the family group and Scotland.

The % of children meeting developmental milestones in the Scottish Borders continues to be higher than Scotland.

Children's Services – Looked After Children / Child Protection







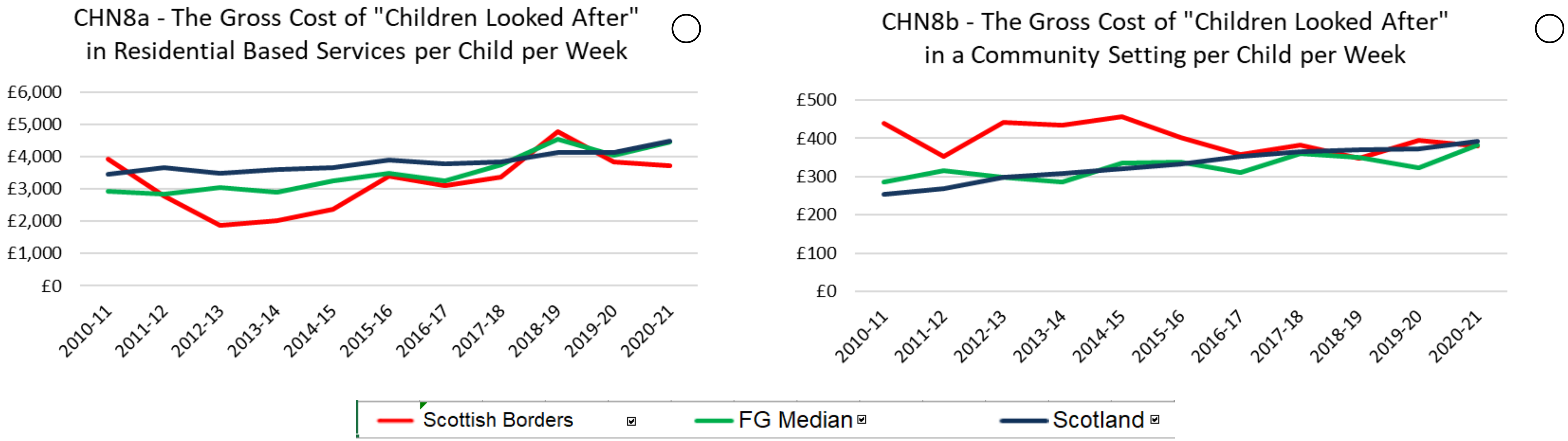
% of children looked after in the community in the Scottish Borders are in similar to the family group and lower compared to Scotland. It is important to note that external placements cost significantly more that community placements (**9.75 times**)

- Residential based services **£3,707** per week
- Community setting **£380** per week

For both 2019-20 and 2020-21 the % of child protection re-registrations within 18 months was "0" for the Scottish Borders, below both family group and Scotland.

The % of LAC with more than 1 placement in the last year in the Scottish Borders is similar to both Scotland and the family group.

Children’s Services – Residential / Community Cost per Week

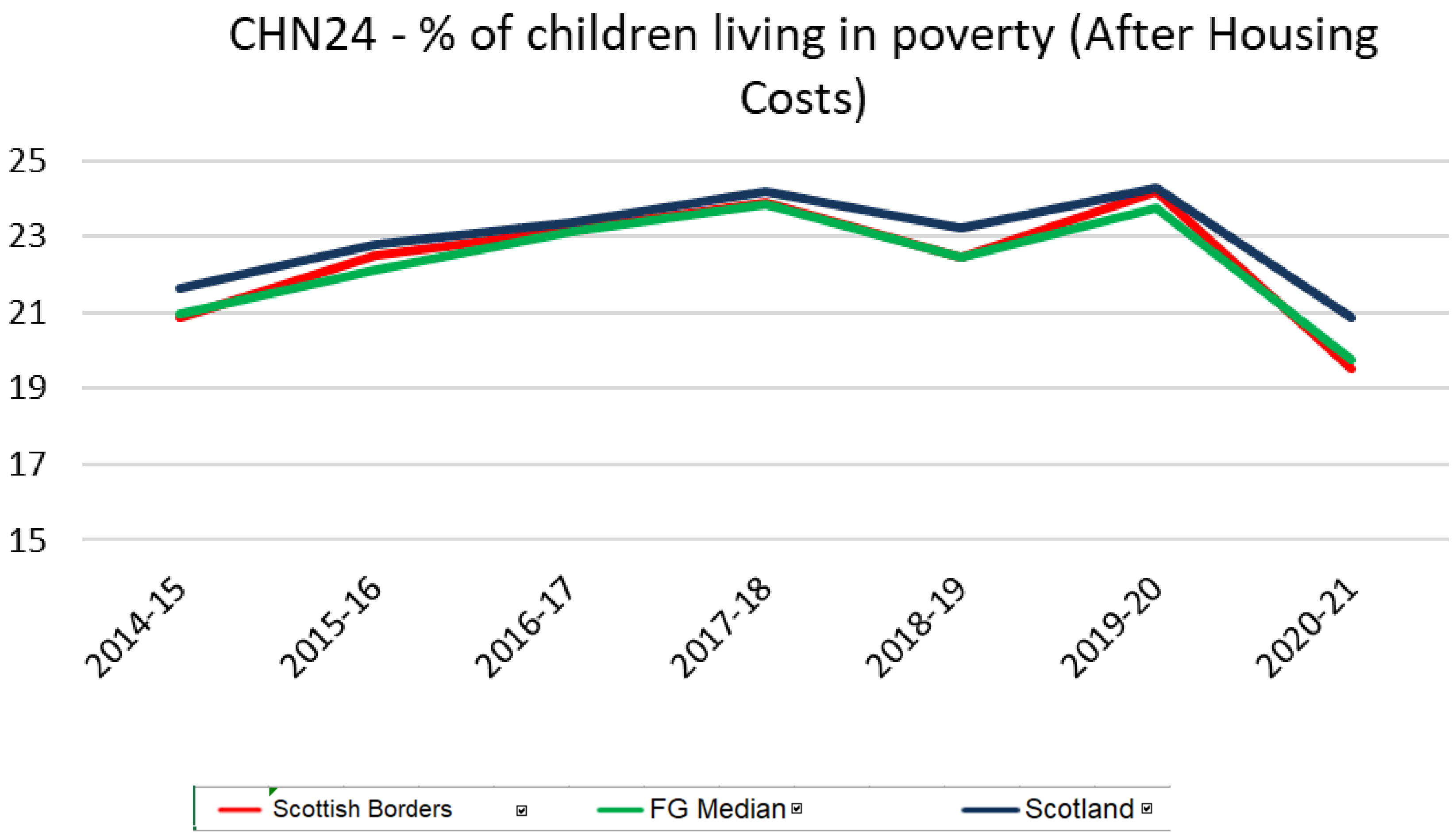


The gross cost of “Children Looked After” in **residential based services** per child per week for the Scottish Borders was slightly lower in 2020-21 compared to Scotland and the family group. (£3,707 for Scottish Borders)

The gross cost of “Children Looked After” in **community setting** per child per week for the Scottish Borders in 2020-21 was similar to Scotland and the family group. (£380 for Scottish Borders)

In the Scottish Borders the difference gross cost for residential based vs community setting was £3,327 per week per child. Having 2 more children in external placement can be c£300,000 per annum as well as those children no longer living with their families in the Scottish Borders.

Children's Services – % of children living in poverty (after housing)

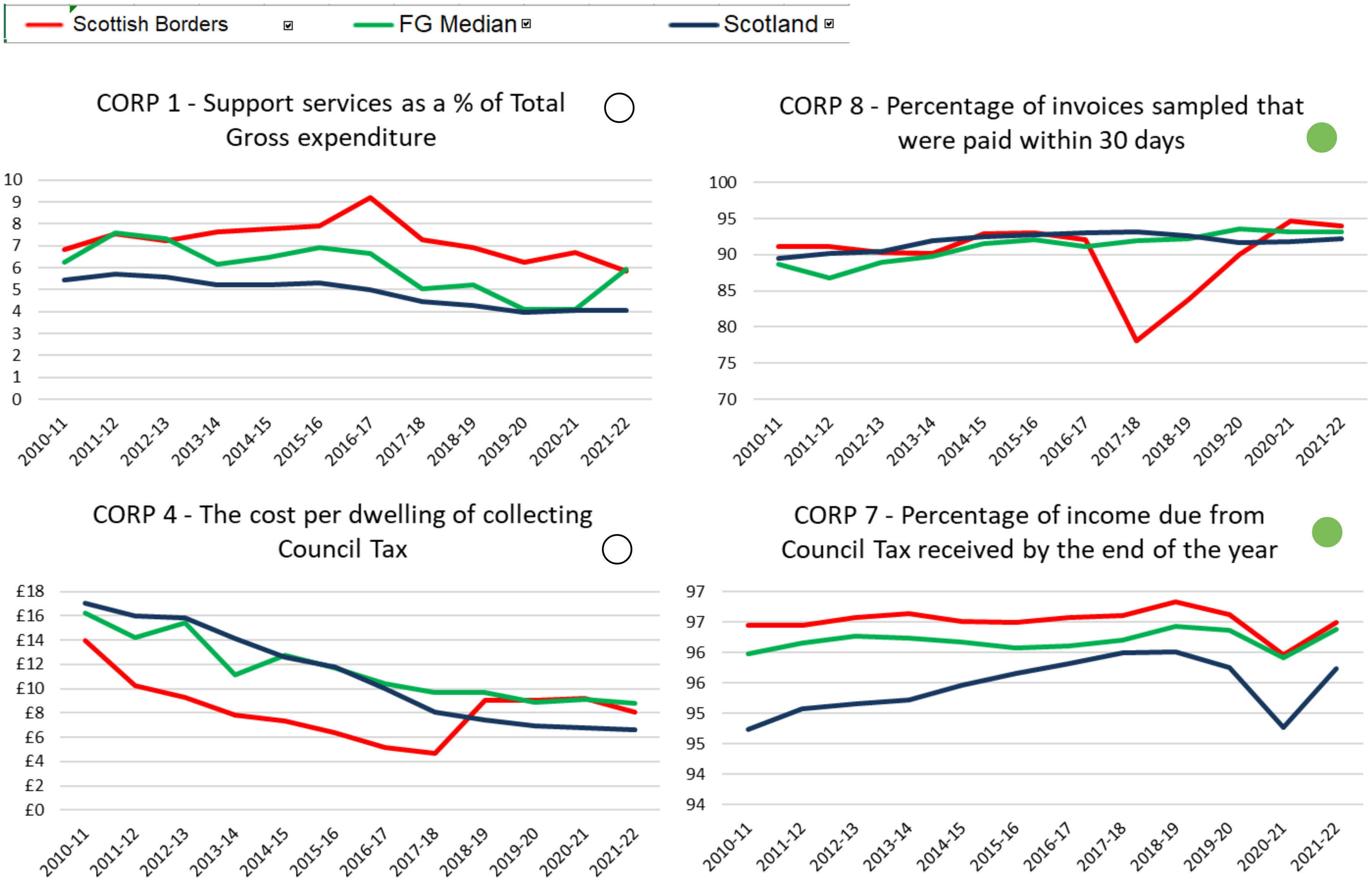


The % of children living in poverty (after housing costs) in the Scottish Borders has followed a similar pattern as Scotland and the family group.

The introduction of the Scottish Child Payment launched in February 2021 reduced the proportion of children living in poverty (after housing costs) for all of Scotland. Working towards the 10% target for 2030.

Corporate – Support Services / Council Tax / Invoice Payment

Scottish Borders COUNCIL



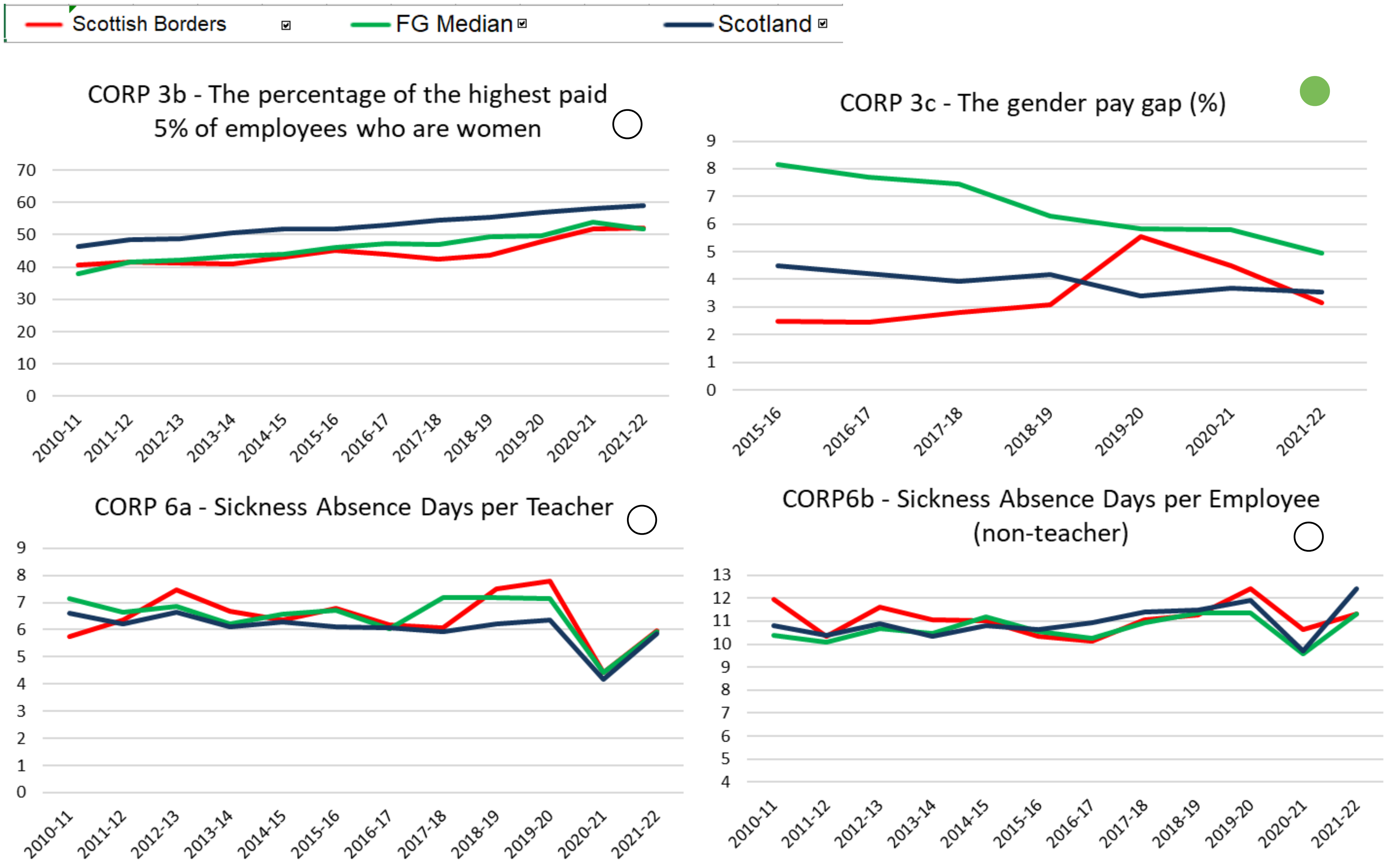
Support Services as a % of Total Gross expenditure is higher compared to Scotland, but similar to the family group.

In 2021-22, like 2020-21, the % of invoices paid within 30 days for the Scottish Borders was slightly better than Scotland and the family group. (After the implementation of Business World)

The cost of collecting Council Tax per dwelling has remained stable for SBC and the Family Group.

The % of income due from Council Tax Received for the Scottish Borders is similar to the family group and shows some recovery from the impact of Covid-19.

Corporate – Gender Pay and Sickness Absence

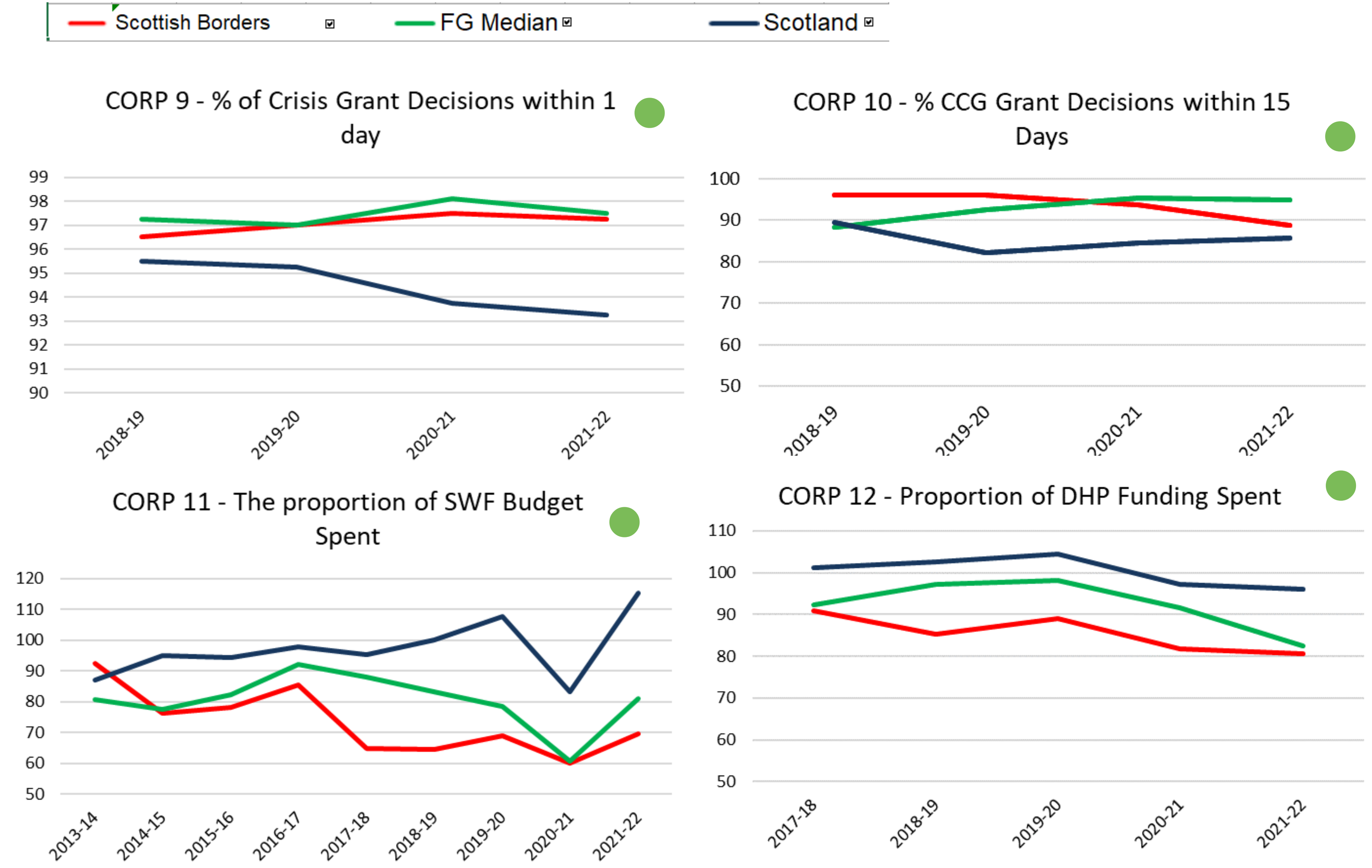


The Scottish Borders consistently has a lower proportion of women in the highest 5% of employees compared to Scotland, but similar to family group.

The Gender Pay Gap for Scottish Borders Council in 2021-22 was lower than both Scotland and the family group.

The Sickness Absence days in the Scottish Borders for Teachers and Employees (non-teacher) follow a similar patter to that experienced for Scotland and the family group.
(Note Absences related to Covid are excluded to provide continuity in relation to the focus and purpose of this indicator.)

NEW: Corporate – Crisis Grant and Community Care Grant Decisions, Scottish Welfare Fund and Discretionary Housing Payments Funding Spent



The % of Crisis Grant decisions within 1 day in the Scottish Borders is consistently higher than Scotland and similar to the family group.

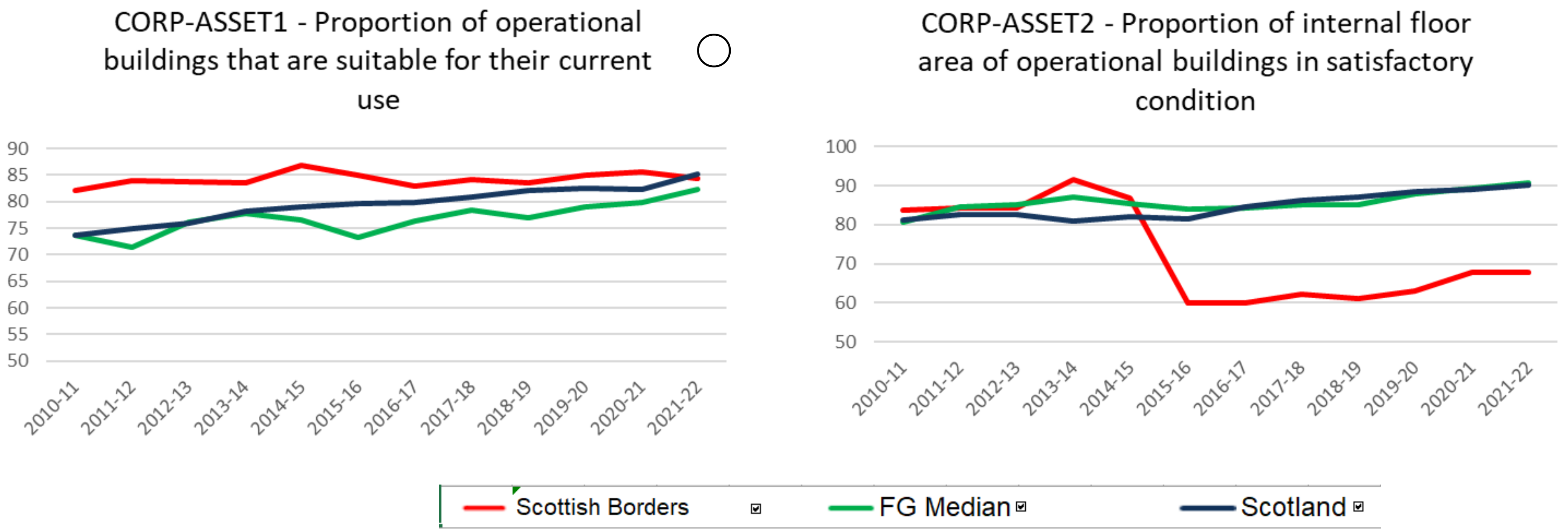
The % of Community Care Grant (CCG) decisions within 15 days in the Scottish Borders has decreased slightly, although still higher than Scotland.

The % of Scottish Welfare Fund (SWF) budget spent in the Scottish Borders has consistently been below the level for Scotland and the family group.

The % of Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) budget spent in the Scottish Borders has consistently been below the level for Scotland and the family group.

For both SWF and DHP Scottish Borders has not exceeded its budget.

Corporate Assets – Suitable Buildings / Floor Space in Satisfactory Condition



The % of Scottish Borders Council's operational buildings that are suitable for their current use continues to be higher than the family group, and now similar to Scotland.

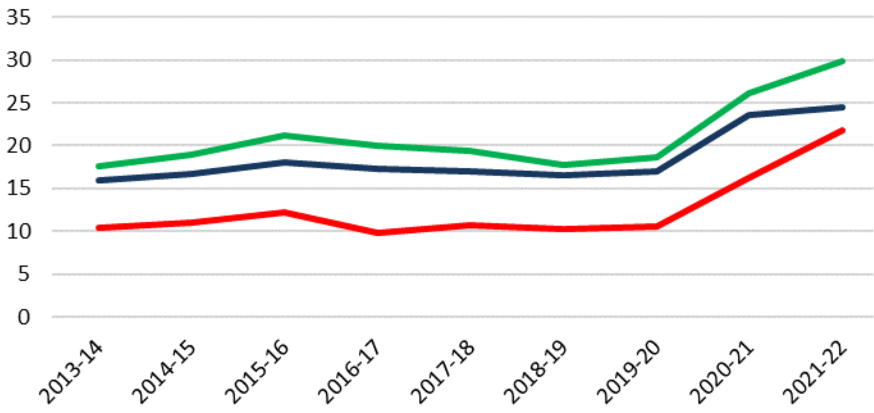
The % of internal floor area of operational buildings in satisfactory condition for Scottish Borders Council is stable, but continues to be below the level for the Family Group and Scotland.

There are six more operational assets which has resulted in the change to the data. One asset is the Great Tapestry of Scotland which has a suitability and condition score of A. The other five assets have moved from the non-operational portfolio to the operational portfolio although they are not used for the delivery of front line services.

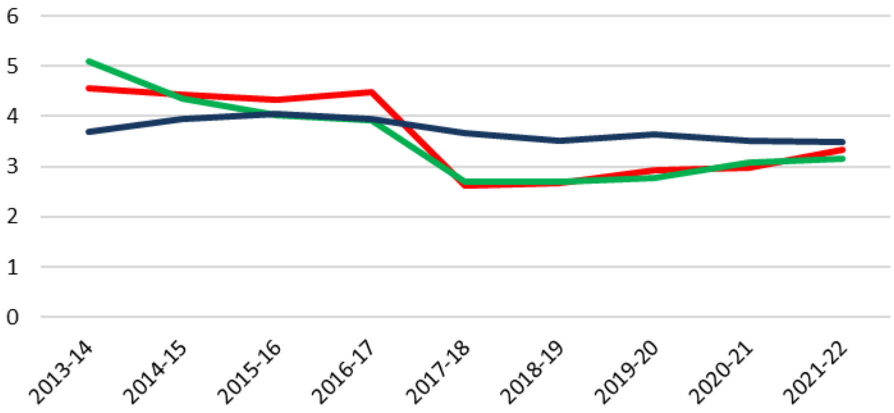
Financial Sustainability ○○○○

Scottish Borders FG Median Scotland

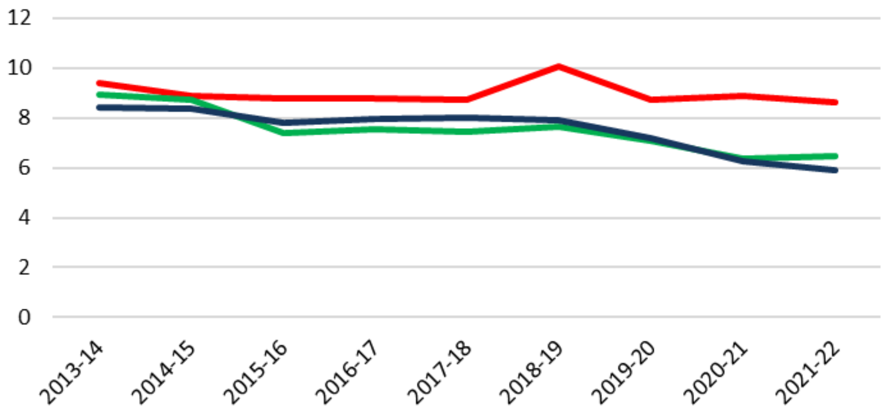
FINUS1 - Total useable reserves as a % of council annual budgeted net revenue



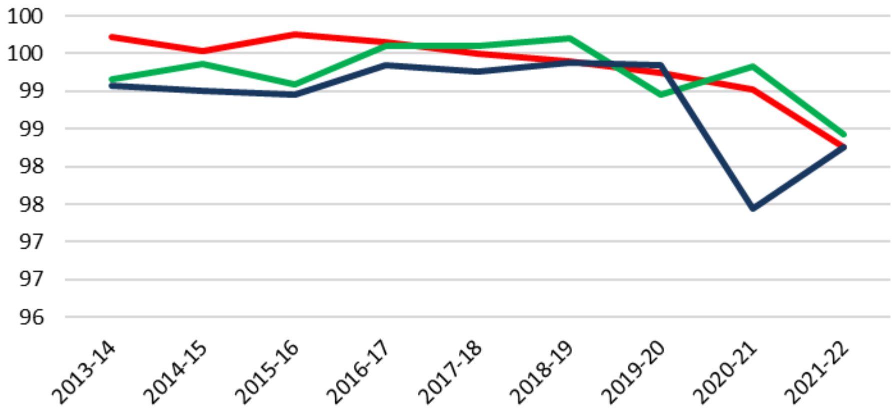
FINSUS2 - Uncommitted General Fund Balance as a % of council annual budgeted net revenue



FINSUS 3 - Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream



FINSUS5 - Actual outrun as a percentage of budgeted expenditure



The financial sustainability indicators for the Scottish Borders show stability.

Total useable reserves as a % of council annual budgeted revenue increased to just over 20% in 2021-22, now more similar to Scotland and family group.

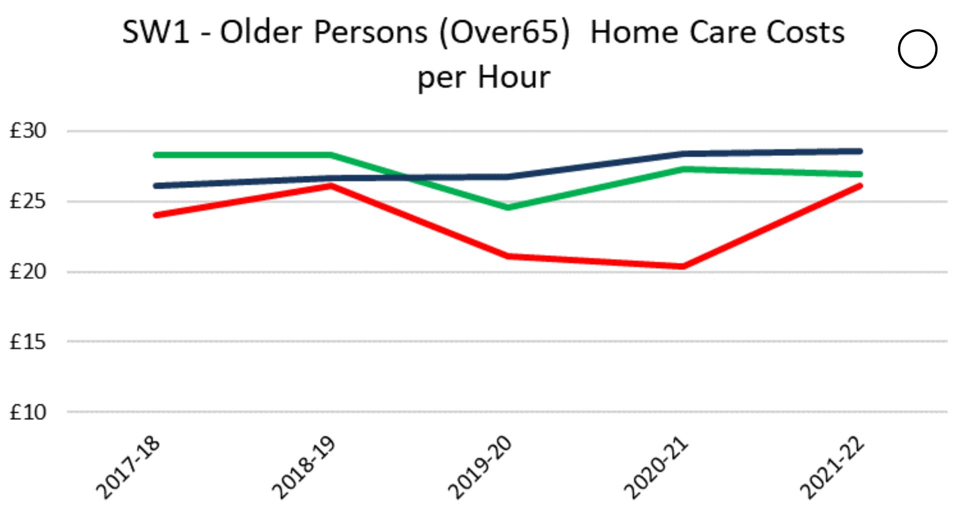
Uncommitted General Fund Balance as a % of council annual budgeted net revenue is similar to family group.

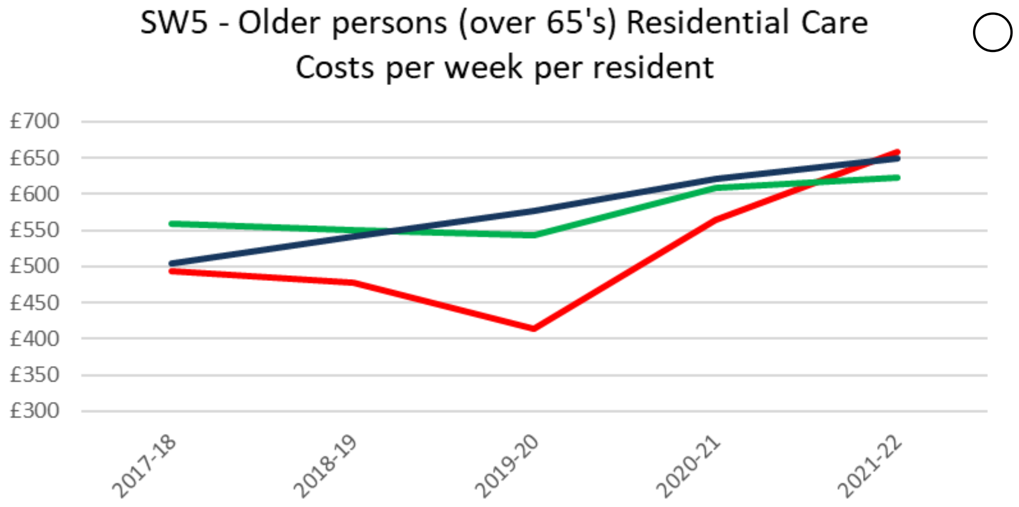
Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream - General Fund is higher in the Scottish Borders compared to family group and Scotland.

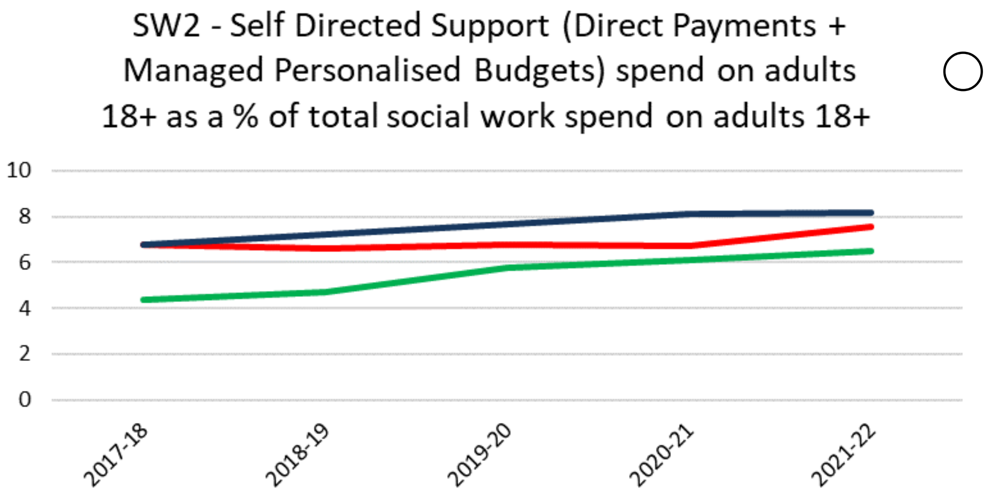
Actual outrun as a percentage of budgeted expenditure for the Scottish Borders is similar to family group.

Adult Social Care - Cost of Home Care / Cost of Residential Care / % Self Directed Support

Scottish Borders | FG Median | Scotland





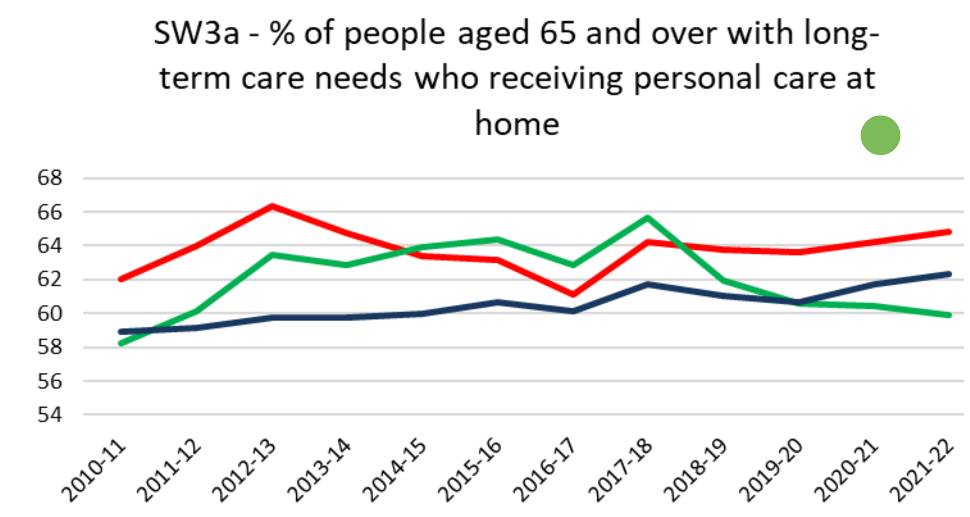


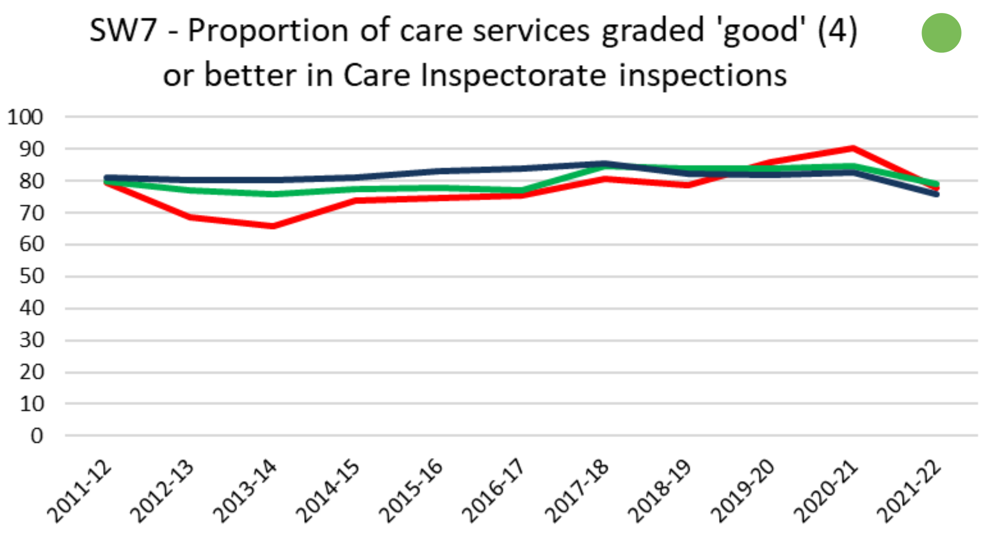
In 2021-22 Home Care costs per hour for the Scottish Borders is similar to Family Group and Scotland, but has risen significantly compared to the previous two years.

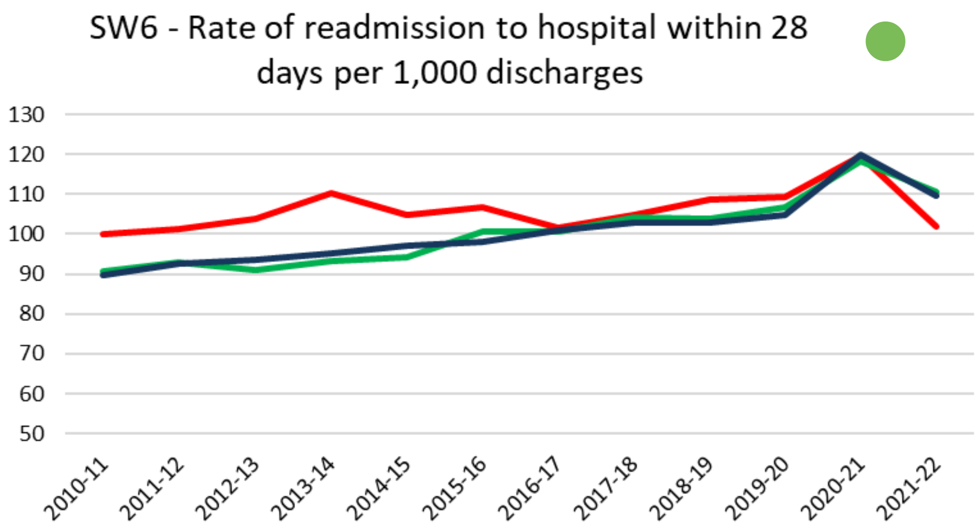
Residential Care costs per week per resident is similar to Family Group and Scotland.

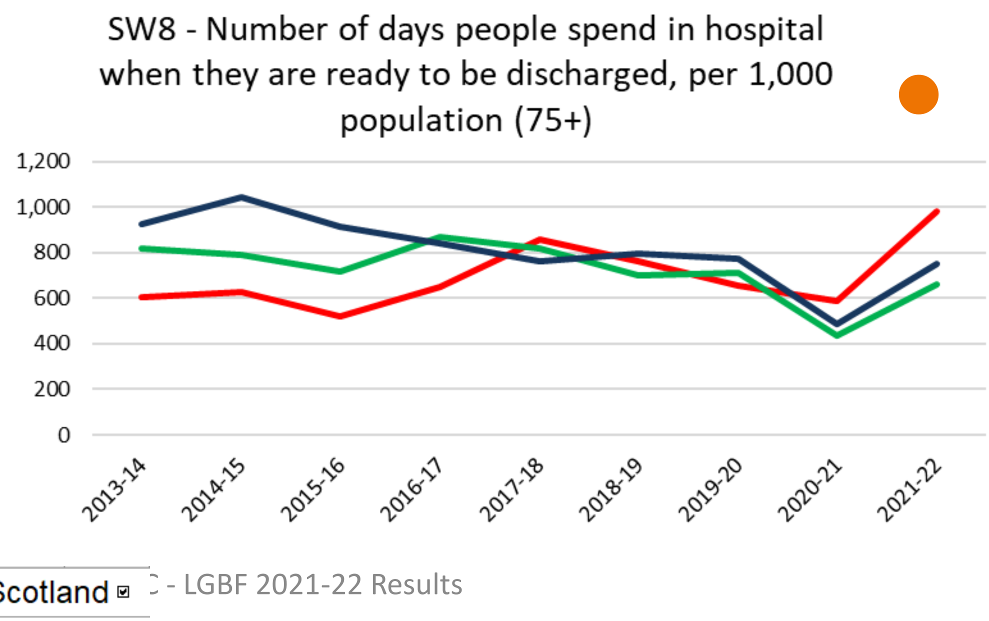
The % of Self Directed Support (Direct Payments + Managed Personalised Budgets) spend on adults 18+ as a % of total social work spend on adults 18+ for the Scottish Borders is similar to Family Group and Scotland.

Adult Social Care – % Care at Home / 28 Day Readmissions / Care Inspectorate Inspections / Delayed Discharges









A higher % of people aged 65 and over with long-term care needs who receive personal care at home in the Scottish Borders compared to the family group and Scotland.

The rate of readmission to hospital within 28 days per 1,000 discharges for the Scottish Borders is lower than the level of the family group and Scotland in 2021-22.

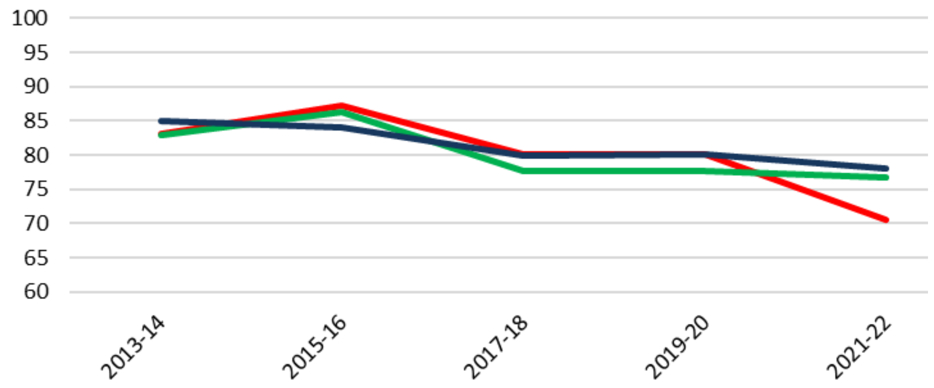
A similar % of care services in the Scottish Borders are graded 'good' or better compared to Family Group and Scotland.

People spend slightly longer in hospital when they are ready to be discharged, per 1,000 population (75+) in the Scottish Borders compared to Family Group and Scotland.

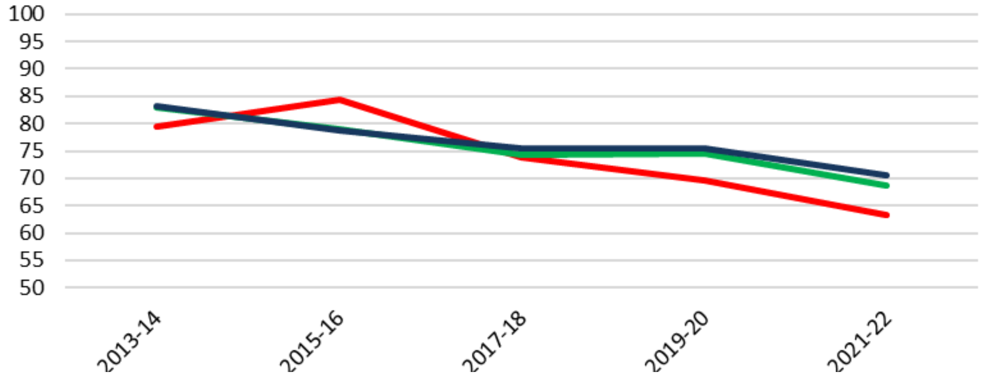
Adult Social Care – Positive Impact / Supported Independence / Had a Say / Carers Feel Supported

Scottish Borders | FG Median | Scotland

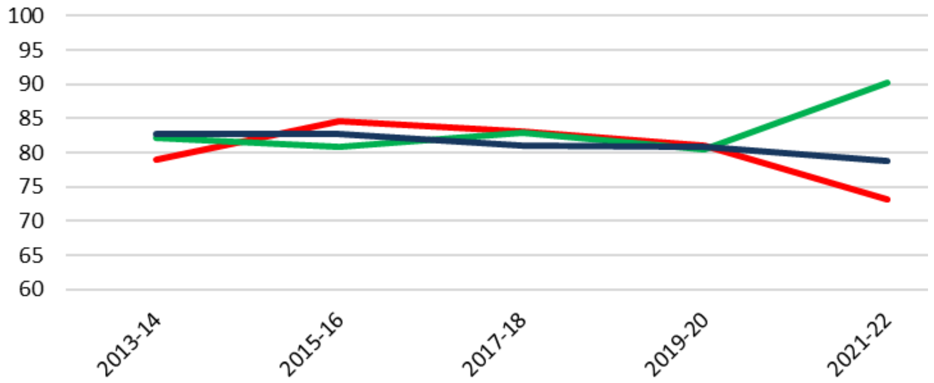
SW4b - % of Adults supported at home who agree their care had a positive impact on improving or maintaining their quality of life (C&E survey)



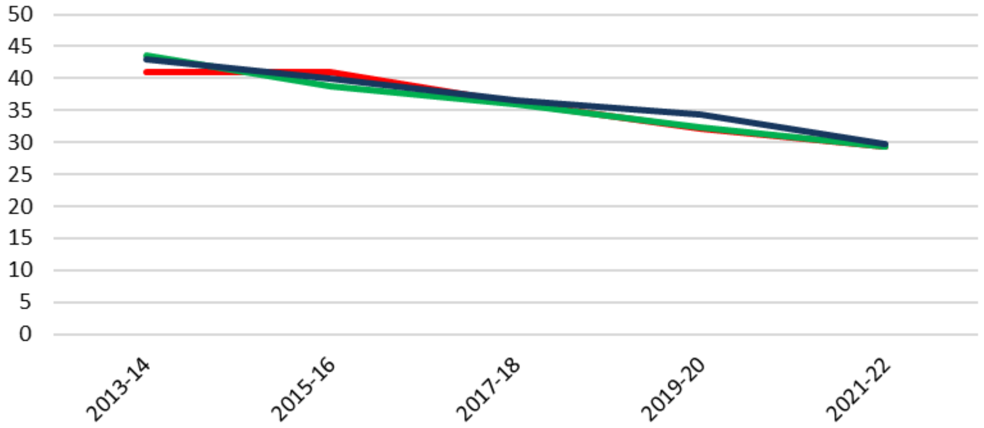
SW4d - Percentage of adults supported at home who agree that they had a say in how their help, care or support was provided



SW4c - Percentage of adults supported at home who agree that they are supported to live as independently as possible



SW4e - Percentage of carers who feel supported to continue in their caring role



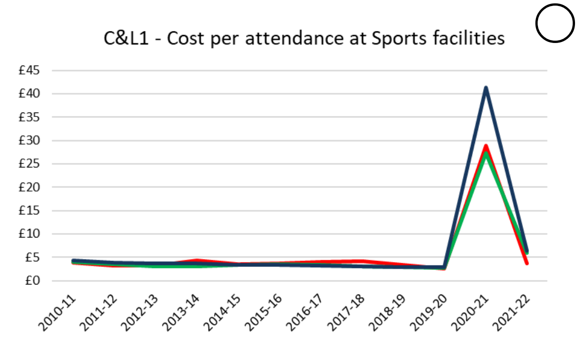
For the Scottish Borders 2021-22 saw a reduction in the % of adults agreeing:

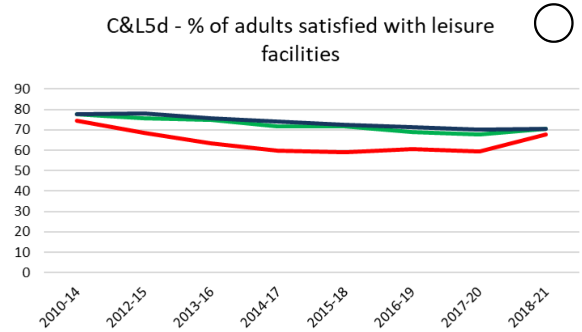
- their care had a positive impact on improving or maintaining their quality of life
- that they are supported to live as independently as possible
- that they had a say in how their help, care or support was provided

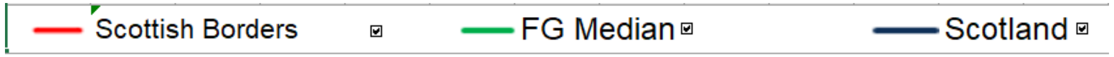
Below both Scotland and family group.

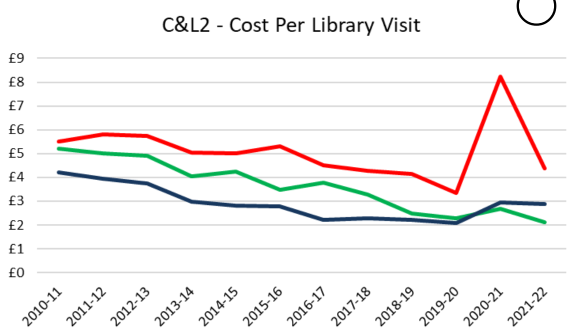
For Scottish Borders, Scotland and the family group the % of carers who feel supported to continue in their caring role continues to reduce.

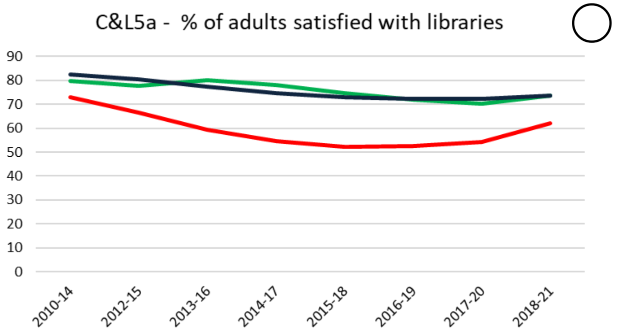
Culture and Leisure Services – Sports Facilities / Libraries / Museums

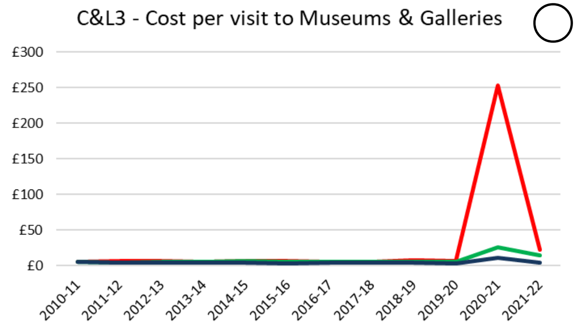


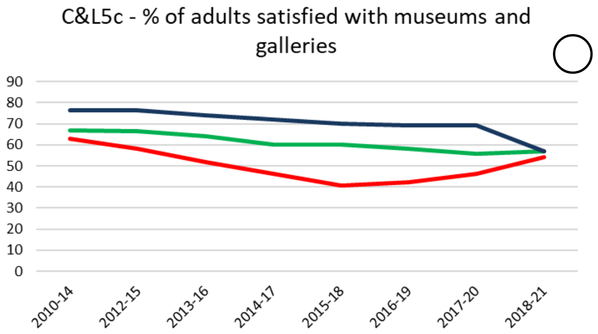












The cost per attendance or visit to a sport facility, library, or museum and gallery has returned to pre Covid levels. Overall the costs for the Scottish Borders are similar to Scotland and the family group.

There has been a slight improvement in satisfaction with the sport and leisure facilities, libraries, museum and galleries. Although the satisfaction in the Scottish Borders is slightly below the Scotland level.

Culture and Leisure Services - Reflection

- The latest LGBF performance results for Borders sport facilities, museums and galleries is generally positive and moving in the right direction.
  - An example of this is reflected a recent University of Aberdeen independent survey which highlighted that the GTOS visitor centre in Galashiels has improved public perception of the town; that GTOS was the key reason why 60% of the holidaymakers interviewed visited the area; and that National tourism leaders are hailing the attraction as a triumph over adversity, as it opened amidst some of the most significant National and global crises the industry has ever experienced. https://www.abdn.ac.uk/news/16657/

- The performance result for library services is less positive. In the Borders we have:

  - 5x Library Contact Centres, managed by SBC staff.

  - 7x Libraries, managed by Live Borders staff.

Opening hours vary, ranging from 3hrs per week to 30hrs per week, with a current average of Library Contact Centre (14hrs pw) and Libraries (18hrs pw)

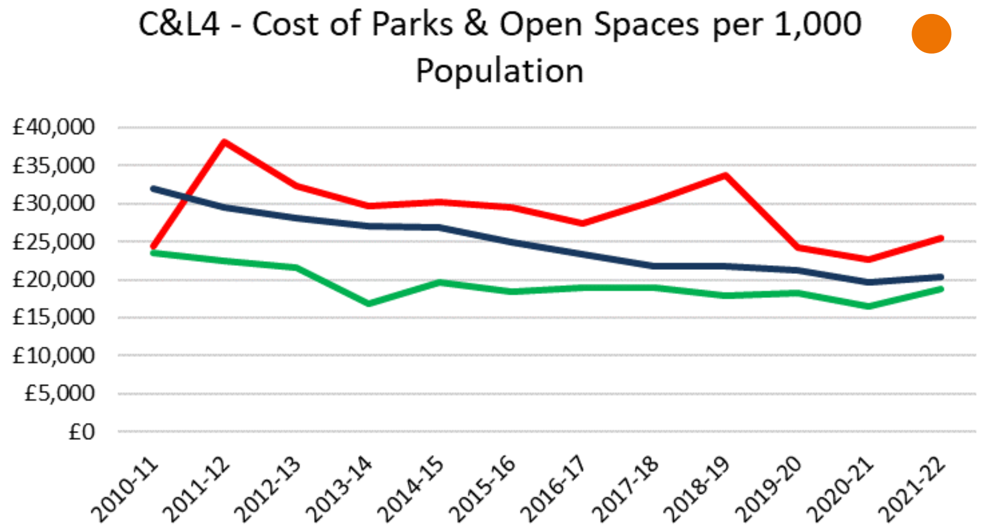
Culture and Leisure Services – Reflection (continued)

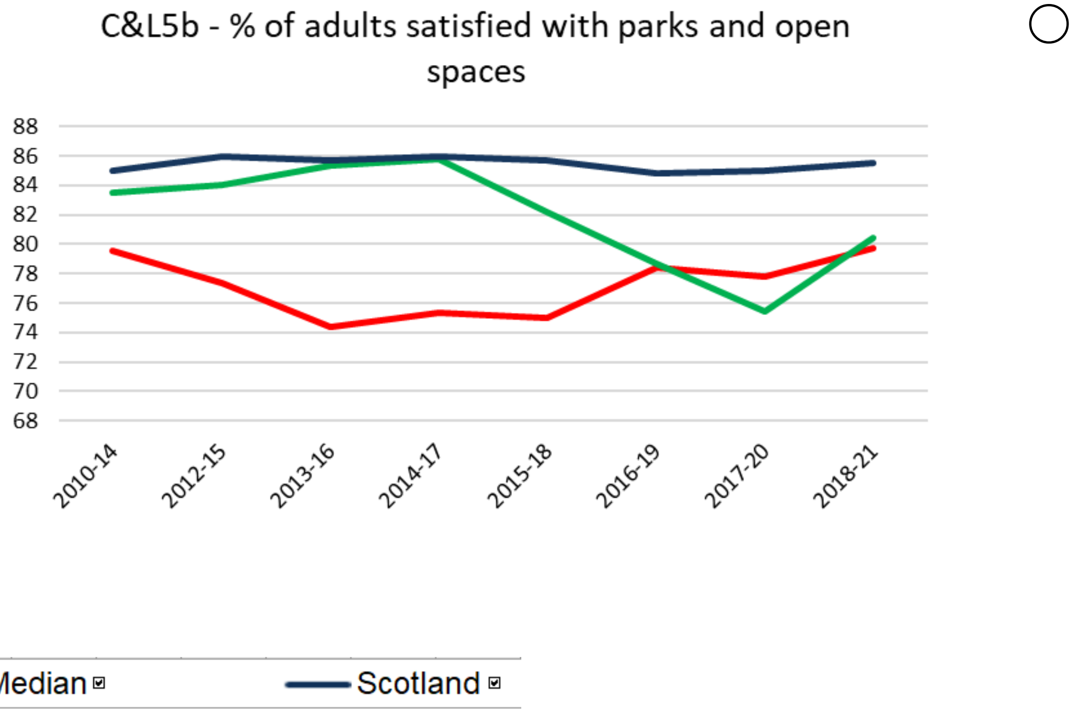
Live Borders is exploring the purchase of a new Library Management System (LMS). As well as improving stock management and stock rotation processes this could:

- Provide opportunities to access library resources from across Scotland;
- Let people use smartphones and devices to borrow books;
- Make it easier to contact customers;
- Make it easier to organise and promote events, including book groups;
- Make it easier for groups to book library spaces.

This will enable the service to develop the ‘traditional’ library approach of buildings, opening hours & loans to a more modern, digital approach which will keep library services relevant and accessible to all.

Culture and Leisure Services – Parks and Open Spaces

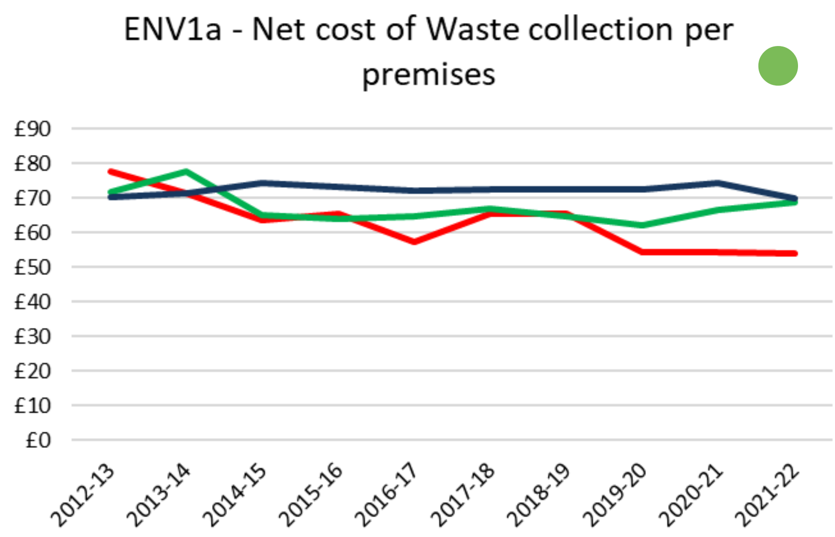


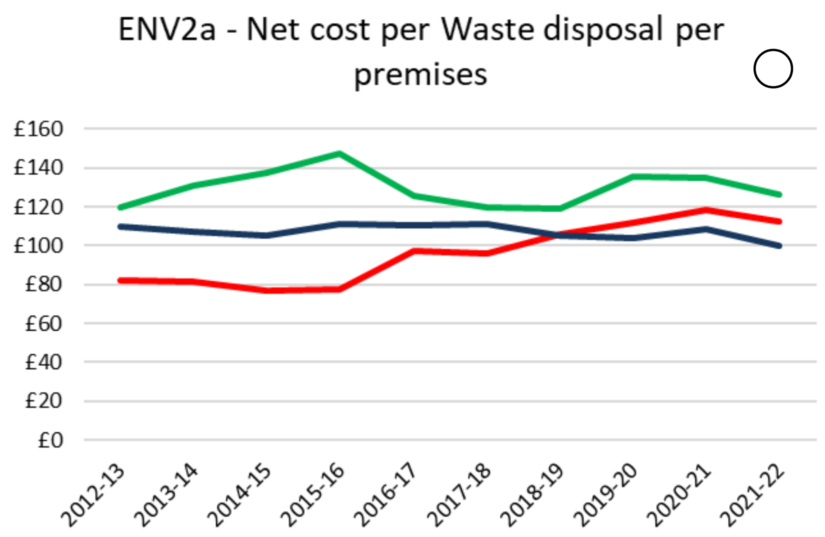


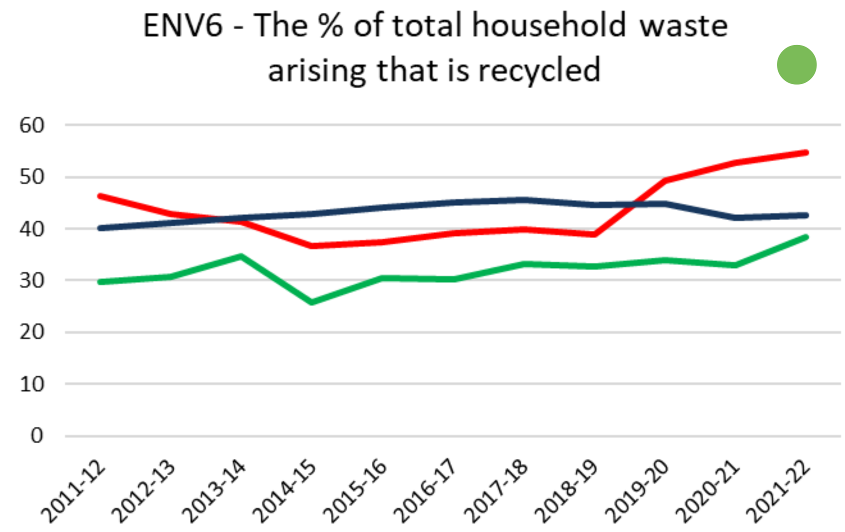
Costs of parks and open spaces per 1000 in the Scottish Borders is slightly higher than that for Scotland and the family group.

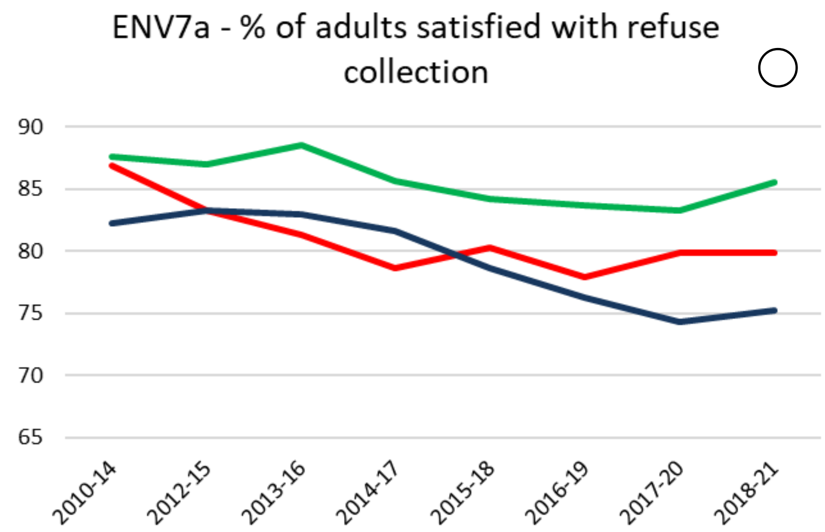
There has been a slight improvement in satisfaction with park and open spaces. Although the satisfaction in the Scottish Borders is slightly below the Scotland level.

Environmental Services – Waste Services









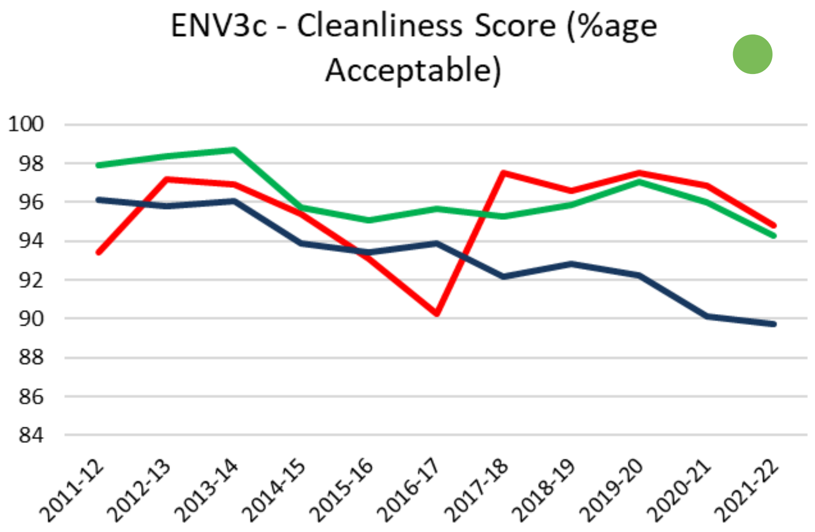
Scottish Borders FG Median Scotland

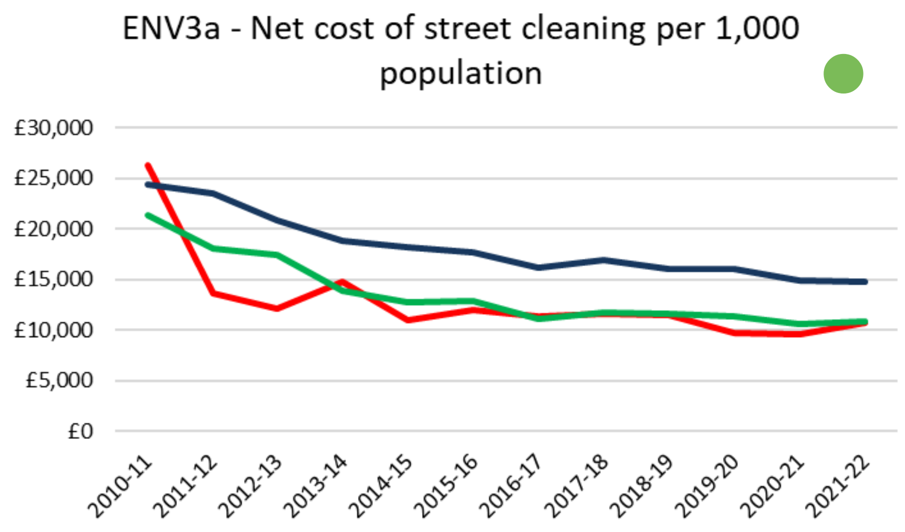
The cost of waste collection per premises in the Scottish Borders is lower than both family group and Scotland.
The cost of disposal in the Scottish Borders is lower than the family group.

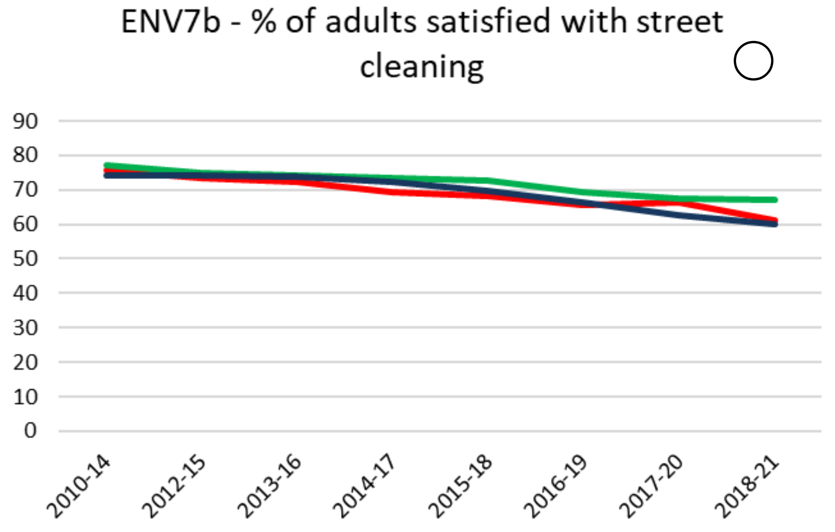
The % of total household waste being recycled has increased and is better than both Family Group and Scotland.

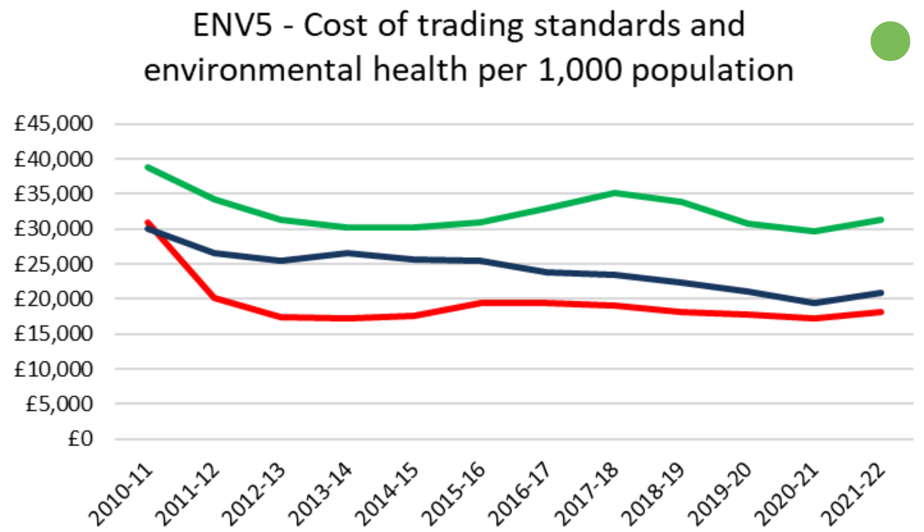
% Adults satisfied with refuse collection is higher compared to Scotland, slightly lower than Family Group. In 2015 the kerbside garden waste service was withdrawal resulting in lower satisfaction. However in recent years we have started to see satisfaction levels recover.

Environmental Services – Street Cleaning / Trading Standards and Environmental Health









Scottish Borders FG Median Scotland

A cleanliness score for the Scottish Borders continues to be higher than Scotland and similar to Family Group.

Adults in the Scottish Borders have a similar satisfaction with street cleaning as the Family Group and Scotland.

The net cost of street cleaning per 1,000 population in the Scottish Borders continues to be below the level for Scotland and similar to the Family Group.

Cost of Trading Standards and Environmental Health per 1,000 population in the Scottish Borders is lower than both Family Group and Scotland.

Environmental Services - Reflection

Waste Services

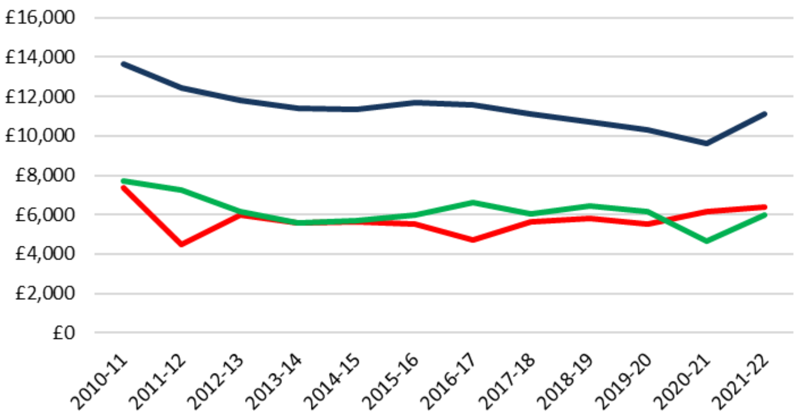
- **Recycling Performance** - The Council Recycling Performance has increased steadily increased since 2018/19. This is the result of the Council's decision to close its landfill site, invest over £5.5 million in its waste transfer station infrastructure and enter into a long term waste treatment contract. It is important recognise that without further changes to the kerbside collection service the Council's recycling rate will remain at around 55%, which will mean aspirational Scottish Government Targets will be missed.
- The **cost of collecting and disposing** of waste remains comparatively low despite the fact that waste treatment is more expensive than landfilling waste.

Street Cleansing

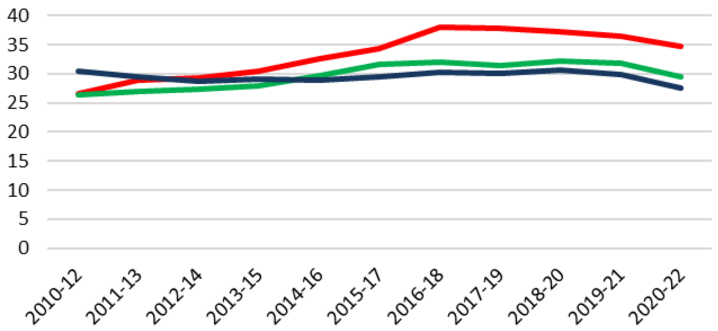
- Although the net cost for street cleansing in the Scottish Borders continues to be below the average level in Scotland. Scottish Borders Council continues to have a cleanliness score above the Scottish average & satisfaction levels for street cleaning are similar to both the family group & Scotland as a whole.

Environmental Services – Cost of Road Maintenance / % of Roads that should considered for maintenance treatment

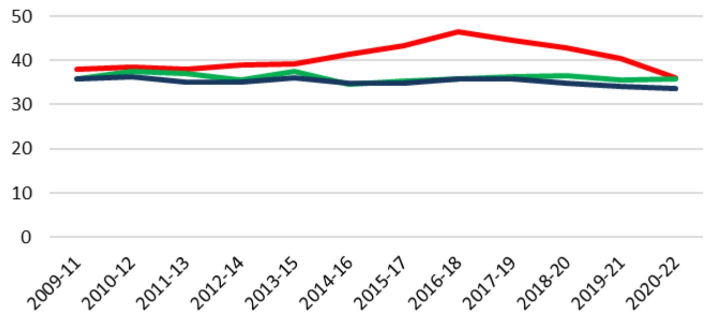
ENV4a - Cost of Roads per kilometre



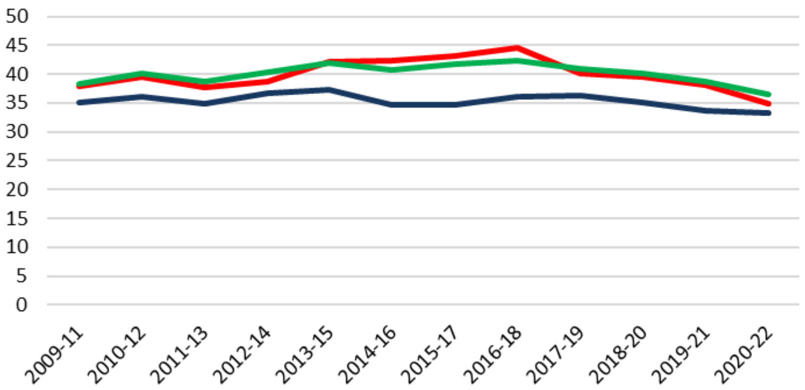
ENV4b - Percentage of A class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment



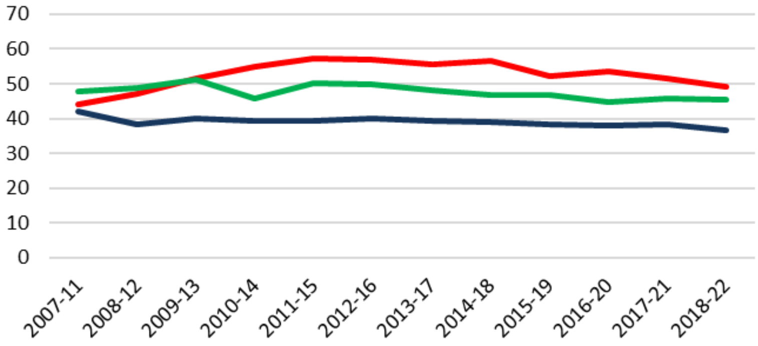
ENV4c - Percentage of B class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment



ENV4d - Percentage of C class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment



ENV4e - Percentage of unclassified roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment



Scottish Borders FG Median Scotland

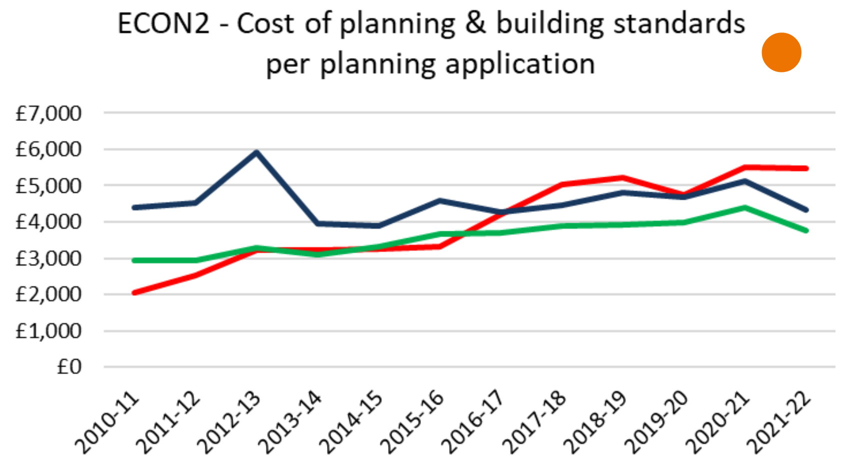
The cost of maintenance per kilometre of roads in the Scottish Borders is similar to the Family Group and below Scotland.

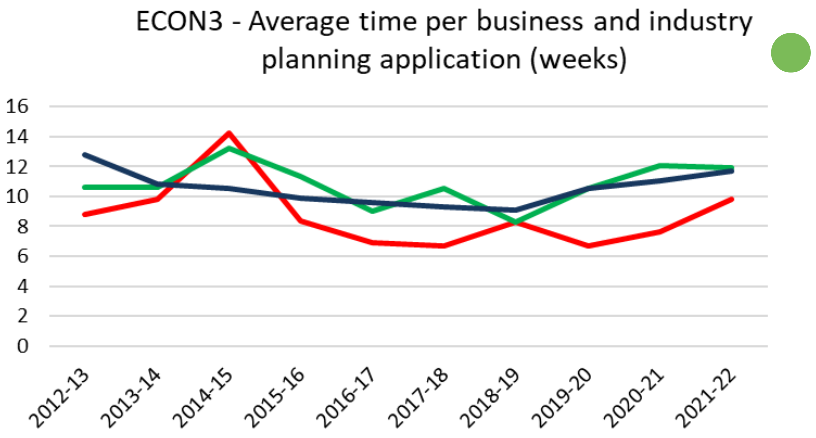
Higher proportion of roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment in the Scottish Borders compared to Scotland.

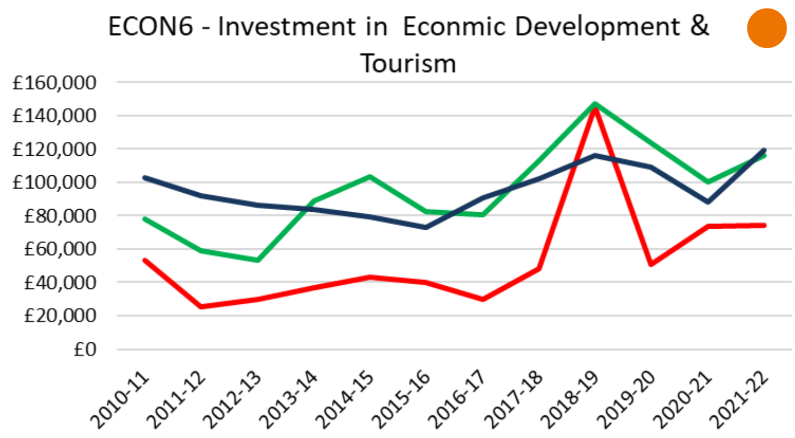
Environmental Services - Reflection
Roads

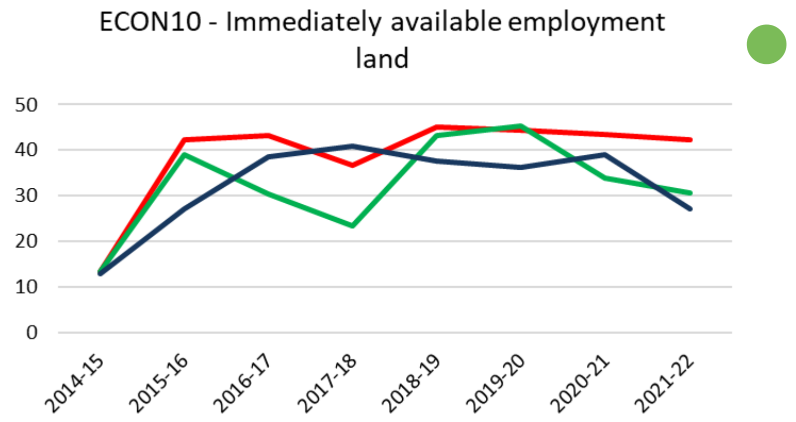
- The Roads service continues to demonstrate its efficiency and effectiveness with the resources it receives.
- In particular the cost per kilometre of maintaining roads in the Scottish Borders is considerably below the Scottish average and on par with family group members
- Further demonstration is provided by stabilising the percentage of roads needing maintenance in the last 5 years despite the long term trend of reduced funding to the service
- Notwithstanding this it must be recognised that the service faces even greater challenges in the years ahead with:
  - more extreme weather patterns (particularly flooding) having a major impact on existing infrastructure
  - significant cost increases in base materials
  - The need to address carbon reduction requirements

Economic Development – Planning Applications / Investment of Economic Development & Tourism / Immediately available employment land









Scottish Borders FG Median Scotland

The cost of planning and building standards per Planning Application in the Scottish Borders is more than Scotland and family group.

The average time per business and industry planning applications is shorter in the Scottish Borders compared to Family Group and Scotland.

Scottish Borders has a lower level of investment in Economic Development & Tourism, (however this does not reflect the SOSE activity).

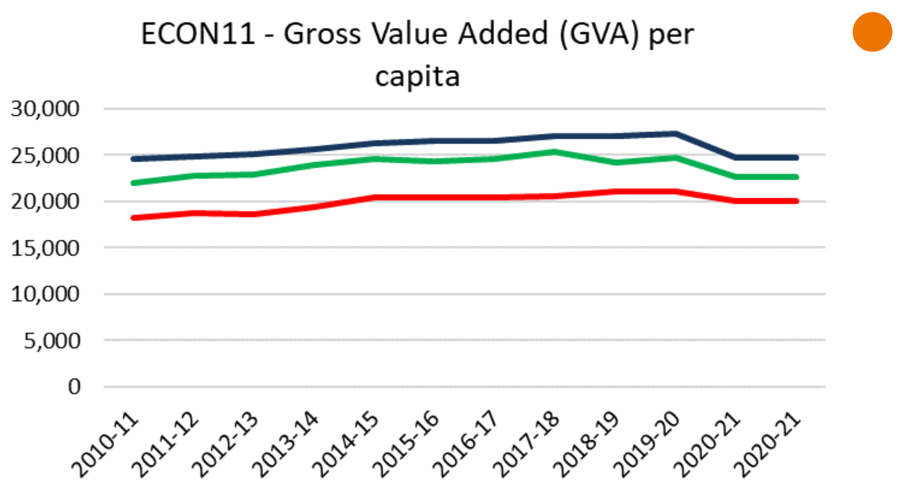
Immediately available employment land as a % of total land allocated for employment purposes in the local development higher in Scottish Borders compared to Family Group and Scotland.

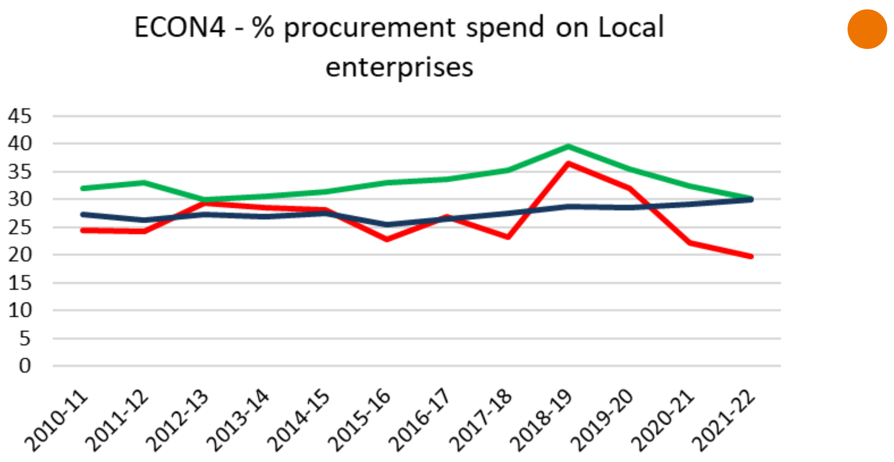
Economic Development - Reflection

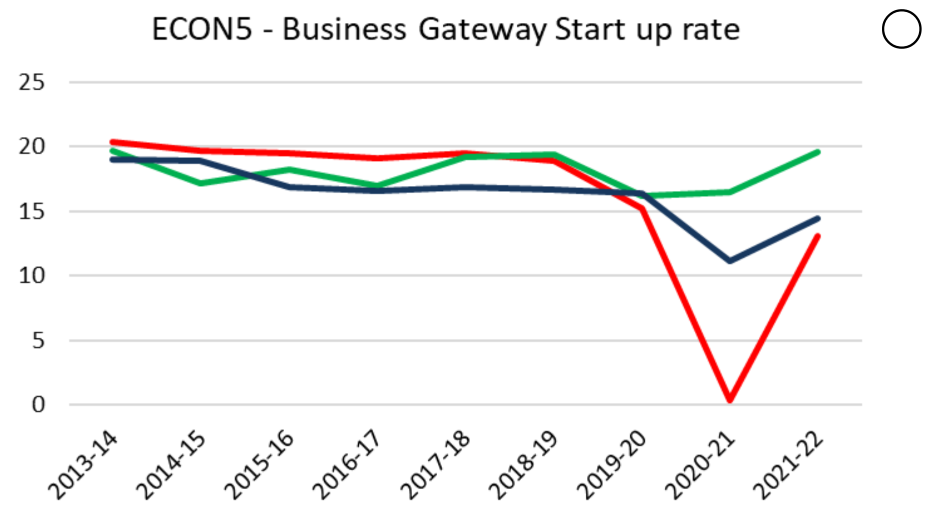
A particularly difficult and challenging year for the Planning service, continuing to adapt to new ways of working, delivering services on a remote and electronic basis, whilst maintaining performance above the national average and coping with a high level of staff turnover.

Economic Development – Gross Value Added (GVA) / % Procurement spend on local enterprises / Business Gateway Start up Rate

Scottish Borders COUNCIL







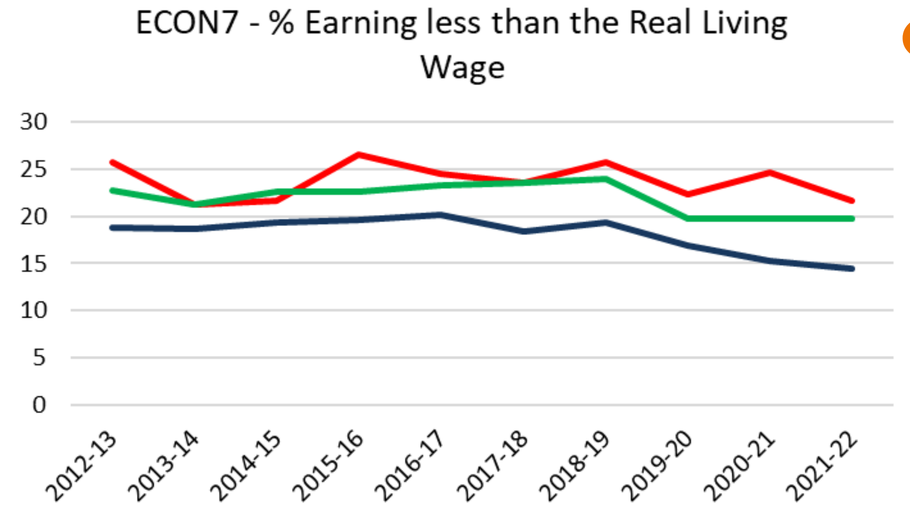
The Gross Value Added (GVA) per capita for the Scottish Borders has consistently been lower than the GVA of the Family Group and Scotland.

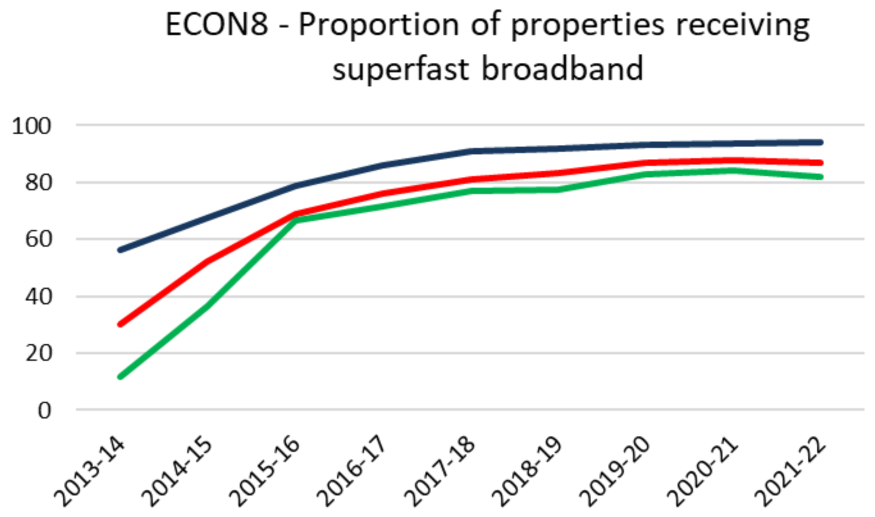
In 2021-22 the % of procurement spend spent on local enterprises in the Scottish Borders was lower compared to Family Group and Scotland. Reasons for this are a combination of recovering from the impact of Covid-19 , lower number of enterprise head quarters being located in the Scottish Borders (more 'branches') and SB Cares coming back into the Council.

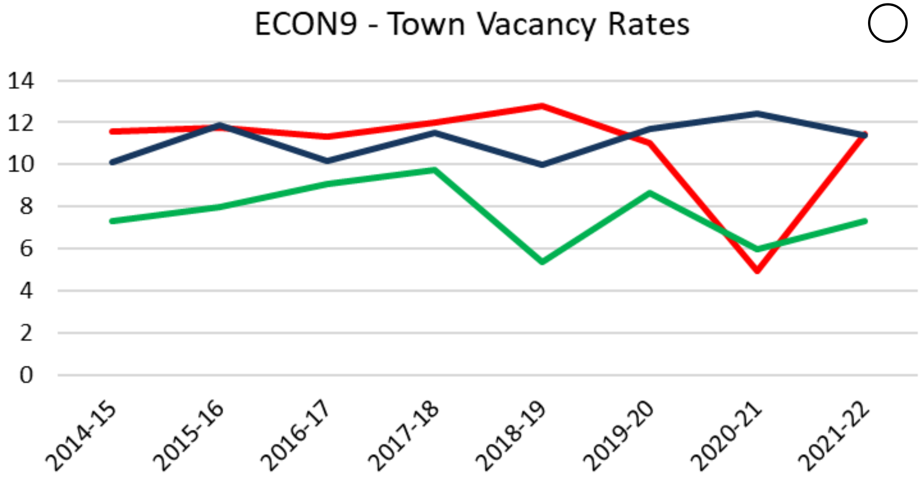
The number of business gateway start-ups per 10,000 population in the Scottish Borders has returned back to pre Covid-19, although below Scotland and family group.

Scottish Borders | FG Median | Scotland

Economic Development – Living Wage / Broadband / Town Vacancy







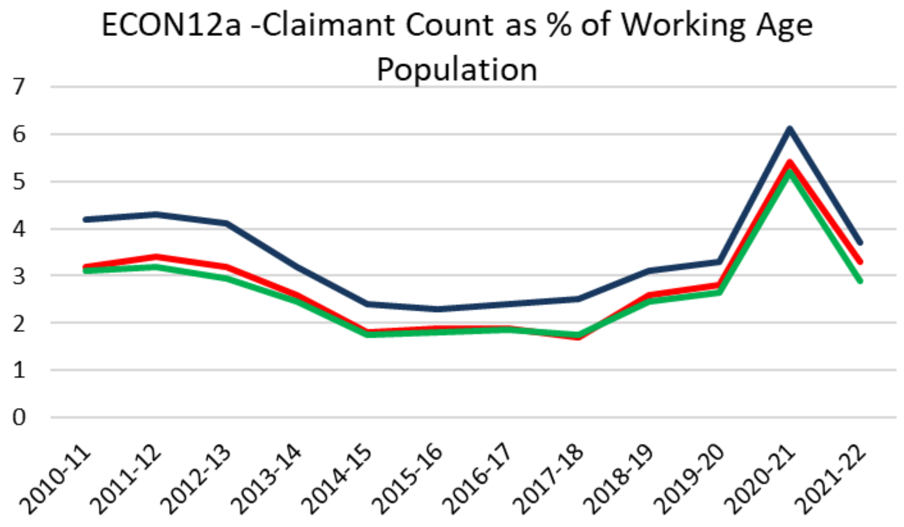
Higher (20%) of people earning **less than the living wage** in the Scottish Borders compared to Family Group and Scotland.

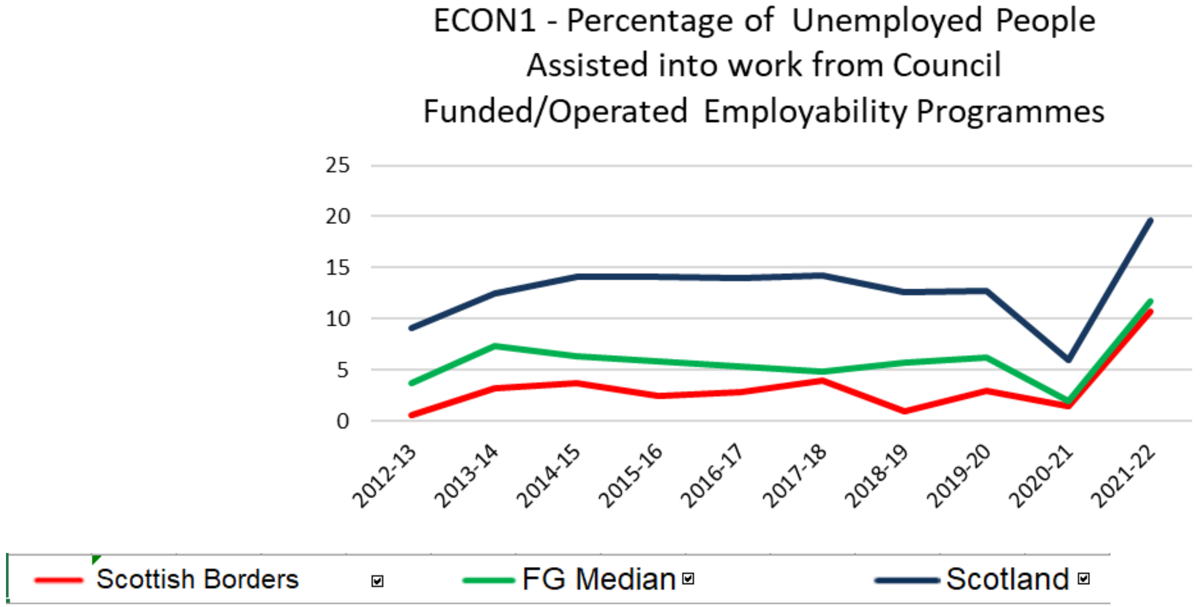
% of properties receiving superfast broadband in the Scottish Borders is lower compared to Scotland, but higher than Family Group.

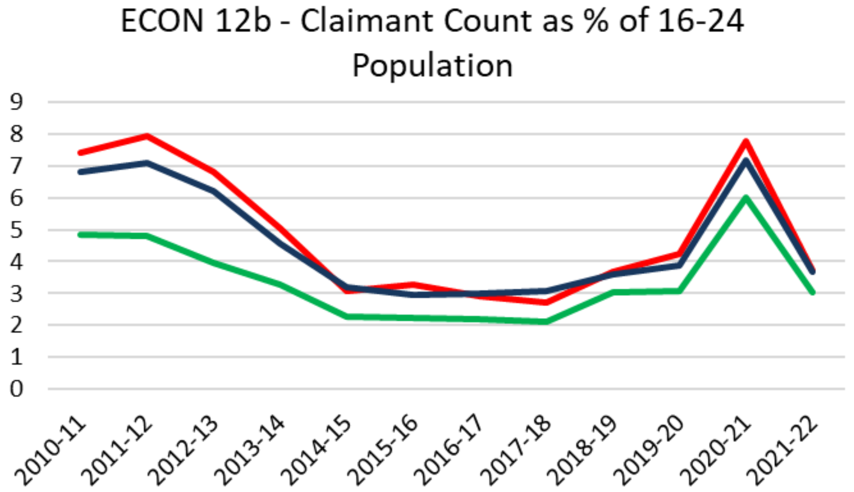
The town vacancy rate in the Scottish Borders in 2021-22 returned to pre Covid-19 levels, similar to Scotland, but higher than family group.

Scottish Borders FG Median Scotland

Economic Development – % Unemployed People Assisted into work from Council Funded/Operated Employability Programmes / Claimant Count % of Working Age / Claimant Count % Aged 16-24





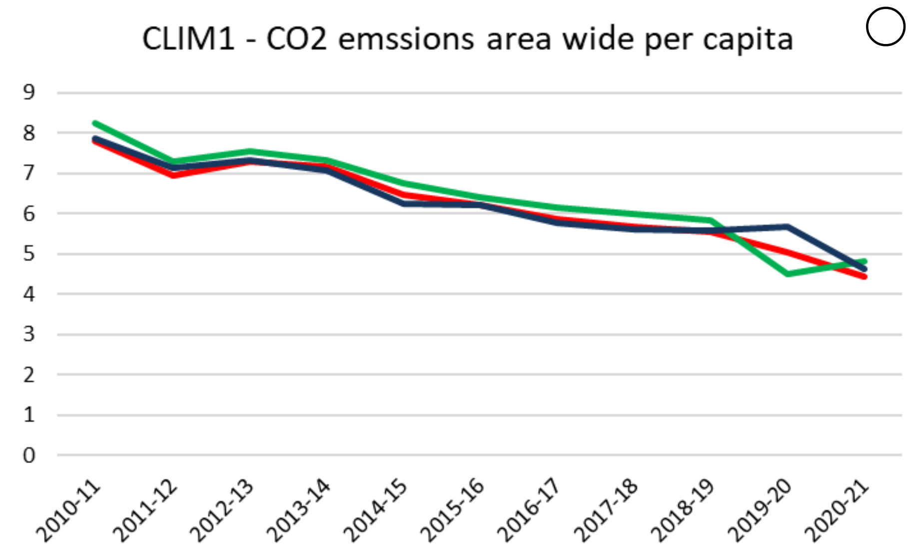


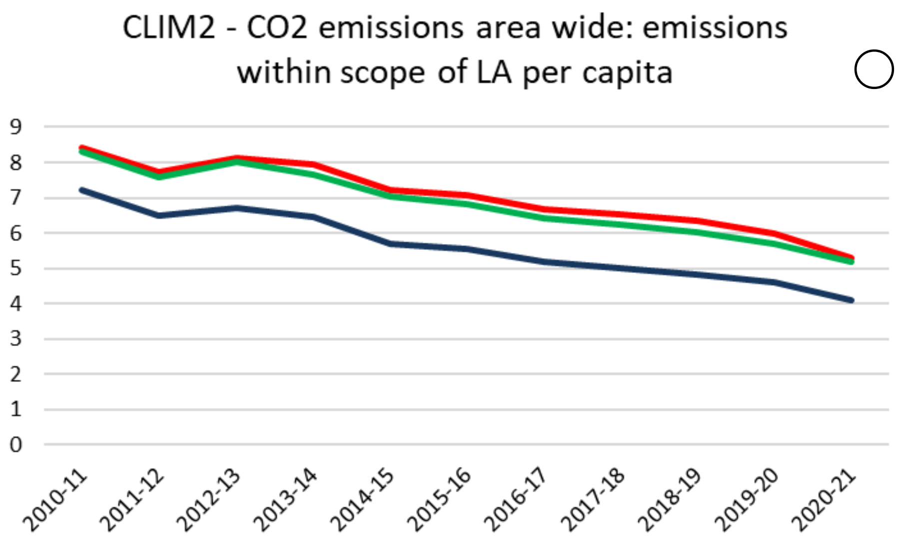
Scottish Borders has a similar % of unemployed people assisted into working from council funded / operated employability programmes to family group., with a marked increase for 2021-22.

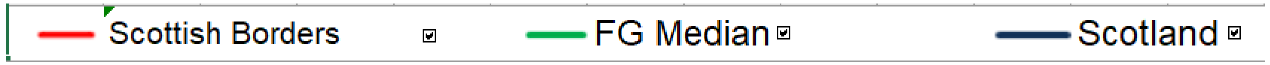
The claimant count as a % of working age in the Scottish Borders is similar to the Family Group and below the level for Scotland. 2021-22 saw a marked decrease in claimant counts after 2020-21.

The claimant count as a % of 16-24 population in the Scottish Borders has the same pattern as Scotland and family group with a marked decrease in claimant counts after 2020-21.

Tackling Climate Change







Overall, the Scottish Borders has similar area wide CO_2 emissions compared to the Family Group and Scotland.

For CO_2 emissions that are **within scope of the local authority,** Scottish Borders has higher emissions compared to Scotland (but similar to Family Group).

Scottish Borders is predominately rural in nature with low population density & no heavy carbon intensive industry.

Challenge: Target for Scottish Borders - Net Zero carbon emissions by 2045

Climate Change – What is Scottish Borders Council doing?

Reductions to date primarily due to decarbonisation of the electricity grid

- **Target: Scottish Borders - Net Zero carbon emissions by 2045**

Key current areas of activity

- Establishing carbon emissions baselines for SBC as an organisation and for the wider council area;
- Priority projects (Climate Change Route Map) with ‘heat’ and ‘fleet’* key areas to address;
- Annual mandatory Climate Change report to Scottish Government (link)

* as identified during baselining exercise

Scottish Borders: LGBF 2021-22

Key Progress

- Educational Attainment for all
- School leavers entering positive destinations
- Participation rate for 16-19 year olds
- No child protection re-registrations within 18 months
- Payment of invoices
- Gender Pay Gap reduced
- % of people aged 65 and over with long-term care needs who receiving personal care at home
- Recovery from the impact of Covid-19 for sport facilities, library and museums/ galleries
- Household waste recycled
- Street Cleanliness Score
- Time per business and industry planning application
- SBC continues to be financially stable

Key Challenges

- Educational Attainment of pupils living in the 20% most deprived areas of Scotland. (Education Gap)
- % of children living in poverty (after housing costs)
- % of children being looked after in the Community
- % of internal floor area of operational buildings in satisfactory condition
- % of adults supported at home who agree that they had a say in how their help, care or support was provided
- % of carers who feel supported to continue in their caring role (similar to Family Group)
- More roads in the Scottish Borders that should be considered for maintenance
- Cost of planning applications
- Proportion of people earning less than the living wage
- Gross Value Added (GVA) per capita
- Meet the target for the Scottish Borders - Net Zero carbon emissions by 2045

Key Results for Scotland

https://www.improvementservice.org.uk/benchmarking

Poverty & Inequality – Key Messages - Scotland

1. Council Tax Collection Rates have almost recovered to pre-Covid levels
2. Claimant Count (Working Age & <25's) largely recovered to pre-Covid levels
3. Positive destinations for the most deprived children has recovered to above pre-Covid levels
4. Senior Phase attainment levels for the most deprived pupils continue to increase, at a faster rate than for other pupils
5. Rent Arrears continue to rise, particularly in LAs serving least deprived communities
6. The % of people earning less than the living wage in urban authorities increased from 13.1% to 15.6% in 2021/22
7. Volume of, and spend on, Scottish Welfare Fund Crisis & Community Care Grants continues to rise
8. Child Poverty levels dropped in 20/21, but expected to increase in future data
9. Employment support to assist unemployed people into work is at an all time high
10. Widening inequality gap in literacy and numeracy (note: 20/21 data)

Education – Key Messages - Scotland

1	Quality of Early Years Provision has declined, particularly for councils serving the most deprived communities – (***could be that in response to Covid, LAs continued to fund services graded less than good/better)***
2	Declining numeracy/literacy levels, and widening gap between least/most deprived (note: 20/21 data)
3	Continued general increase in Senior Phase Attainment levels (with exception of Level 6), particularly for pupils in the most deprived areas
4	Pupil attendance figures have declined during Covid, particularly for most deprived LAs. More recent data indicates a slight recovery, but levels remain below pre-Covid levels.
5	Positive Destinations have recovered to above pre-Covid levels after the initial Covid related decline in 2019/20. Participation rates have continued to improve, with no clear Covid impact.

Latest data is 2020/21

	The Promise – Key Messages - Scotland
1	The number of children who are classed as ‘Looked After’ are reducing across all ages except 16-21
2	The vast majority (90%) of LAC continue to be looked after in the community
3	7% reduction in number of LAC in Community (reduction in ‘at home’ and foster placements, and increase in kinship care)
4	15% reduction in number of LAC in Residential placements (reductions in LA/Vol homes, residential schools, and Secure Care)
5	31% reduction in admissions to secure care (although length of stay is increasing), and increase in number of children from outside Scotland
6	LAC have lower school attendance rates, particularly in secondary education (although improvement for female pupils)
7	LAC have higher exclusion rates from school, particularly in Special and Secondary, although this is reducing.
8	A lower % of LAC enter positive destinations than other pupils. LAC pupils are more likely to enter further education and training compared to others, and almost half as likely to enter employment.
9	While over the long term, LG expenditure on LAC has grown significantly (approx. 20%), in recent years expenditure on Community provision has fallen while expenditure on residential provision has continued to grow reflecting a slight rebalancing in spend towards residential provision.
10	There has been a significant improvement in Placement stability for LAC during the Covid period, particularly for Councils serving the most deprived communities.
11	During the initial period of Covid, there was a reduction in Child Protection re-registrations however this has reversed in the most recent data.

	Pressures in the Health & Social Care System - Scotland
1	Care at Home hours have grown in 2021/22 after shrinking slightly in 2020/21. 2% growth overall, but local variation (grown faster in least deprived LAs, and reduced for most deprived)
2	Little growth in SDS (Direct Payments & Managed Personalised Budgets), at 8.2% in 2021/22
3	Number of Residents in Care Homes has fallen (-1.5%), although less sharply than in 2020/21. Costs per place continue to rise, particularly so for the least deprived councils.
4	Balance of Care (% of older people with LT needs receiving personal care at home) continues to improve. Mixed picture across LAs however, with the most deprived councils seeing this decline in 2021/22
5	While Readmission rates within 28 days have declined in 21/22, they remain higher than pre-Covid figures
6	After falling sharply in 2020/21, delayed discharges increased by over 50% in 2021/22 to close to pre-Covid levels.
7	Satisfaction levels among those being cared for at home and among carers has continued to decline in 2021/22
8	Quality Gradings for Adult Care Services have reduced sharply in 2021/22 to an all time low. However, this may reflect an increased inspection focus on higher risk services during Covid.

Climate & Environment - Scotland

ttish
ders
NCIL

1	Most recent data (2020/21) shows continuing and accelerated improvement in emissions for both area wide, and those emissions within scope of LA (falling by 14% and 11% respectively)
2	Recycling rates remain below pre-Covid figures, although show a slight improvement in 2021/22. Mixed picture however, with urban authorities continuing to report a decline in 2021/22.
3	Sharp reduction in Net Waste expenditure in 2021/22 driven largely by an increase in income due to garden waste permit schemes, food and garden waste uplift charges and other activity (trend is particularly evident for urban authorities)
4	Increased expenditure on Parks (+9%) in 2021/22, following 10 years of reductions. Two thirds of LAs increased spend, with this trend particularly apparent for Rural authorities.
5	Energy Efficiency in Council dwellings continues to improve, increasing by 1pp in 2021/22, and by 34pp since the base year.
6	There has been a significant reduction in Housing meeting SHQS in 2021/22, falling from 90% to 69%. This reflects Covid related delays in carrying out electrical safety inspections, installation of smoke/heat detectors and upgrades to improve energy efficiency, all of which now form part of SHQS.
7	Roads expenditure increased sharply in 2021/22, by 14%, counter to the previous long term trend. The condition of the Road network improved, however this is largely due to a methodological change in the survey.
8	The long-term reducing trend in Street Cleaning expenditure levelled out in 2021/22, with the majority of LAs actually increasing expenditure during this year. Meanwhile, the cleanliness of streets continued to reduce, and continues to be significantly lower in councils serving the most deprived areas.

Economic Recovery - Scotland

1	Local procurement continues to increase. Mixed picture across LAs, with Rural authorities showing a reduction over the past 2 years, counter to the previous trend.
2	After a significant reduction in Business Gateway start ups during 2020/21, the rate has somewhat recovered, although still below pre-Covid levels.
3	Volume of planning applications increased in 2021/22, returning to pre-Covid levels.
4	Continued although slight growth in Broadband coverage nationally in 2021/22 however a third of authorities saw this reduce, a trend particularly evident for Rural authorities.
5	Town Vacancy Rates reduced in 2021/22 to below pre-Covid levels, however again a mixed picture across authorities.
6	GVA in 2020/21 shows a sharp reduction. This is evident across all 32 authorities, and most pronounced in urban authorities