

# SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL CORPORATE PRIORITIES SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE Q2 2016/17 HOW ARE WE DOING?

In 2013, we published our Corporate Plan, with eight priorities to work towards over a five year period. This summary provides an overview of performance during Q2 2016/17, under each of the 8 Corporate Priorities. We continue to make significant progress across a number of key areas such as the economy and education, but recognise that there are ongoing challenges to face in the coming years. Reviewing performance information regularly is a vital part of ensuring we stay focused on what is important; *ensuring the best quality of life for everyone in the Scottish Borders, prosperity for our businesses and good health and resilience for all our communities.* 

## KEY

A mixture of performance information is provided under each priority:

				01
r example, the general health of cluded last years figure and any	s high level performance indicators that show, the economy. For comparison we have Scottish data (where applicable). While the hese indicators, they are largely contextual in played within a grey box.	EMPLOYMENT RAT 76.2% of people aged betw are now in employm	reen 16-64	08     SERVICE Exclosing     Forw existing       Develop more online demand, increase accessibility     Forw existing       ASSETS AND RESOURCES Spend to save, energy     24
		Scotland	73.1%	efficiency, share buildings with gap, focus on
		SB last year	<b>78.3</b> %	
APPRENTICESHIPS 42 apprentices are employed with SBC as of Q1 2016/17	The bottom half of each page contains perfor influence over, for example, how quickly we p Information for each indicator is displayed wi section. This coloured section (where applica and shows where performance has improved green - <b>improved performance</b>	process planning applicat thin a white box above a c ble) will be either Green,	ions. coloured Amber or Red	WORKFORCE         Develop staft,         build skills,         create flexibility         06         ENVIRONMENT         Protect our         natural assets,         reduce waste         05
(up from 25 in Q1 15/16)	amber - a minor change in performance			
	red - area for improvement			

For more on performance visit **www.scotborders.gov.uk/performance** or email **performance@scotborders.gov.uk** Correct at time of publication: 15th November 2016.

## **OUR CORPORATE PRIORITIES**



# 01 ENCOURAGE SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH HOW ARE WE DOING?

## July 2016 - September 2016:

EMPLOYMENT RATE* 75.7% of people aged between are now in employment	n 16-64	CLAIMANT COUNT (16-64YR OLDS) 1.6% of working age people a of work and claiming be		CLAIMANT COUNT (18-24YR OLDS) <b>3.83%</b> of young people are not work and claiming ber		PLANNING APPLIC 327 received during Q2 2016/17	ATIONS
Scotland Q1 16/17	<b>72.9</b> %	Scotland Q2 16/17	2.2%	Scotland Q2 16/17	3.23%		
SB Q1 15/16	<b>76.7</b> %	SB Q2 15/16	1.6%	SB Q2 15/16	3.77%	SB Q2 15/16	312

#### Wider Impact on our Economy

SBC's Business Loan Fund continues to provide access to finance for small businesses, to develop projects that would not otherwise happen and meet requirements of the normal business cycle. In Quarter 2 of 2016/17, loans are forecast to create 2.5 jobs.

The Grapevine in Galashiels has recently benefited from the fund after engaging with the Borders Railway Tourism Business Development Programme. They secured a £20,000 loan to establish themselves in the town's Douglas Bridge, working with Business Gateway to work up their plan and application to the funding stream. Grapevine owner Will Haegeland said "The Business Loan Fund is a real help to anyone trying to establish a new business".

railway • connectivity Our performance during	~	ills • housing •	railway • connectivity	• investment • skills •
BUSINESS GATEWAY 56 new businesses were created with our help	BUSINESS LOANS AND GRANTS <b>£20k</b> was approved in loans over <b>1 successful application</b> to the Scottish Borders Business Loan Fund	INVOICES PAID Invoices paid within 30 days 85% on average were paid within 30 days in Q2 2016/17	AVERAGE TIME TO DETERMINE PLANNING APPLICATIONS* During Q1 2016/17 average times were: There were no major applications determined this quarter	ASSETS AND RESOURCES
(down from 65 in Q2 15/16)	(up from £0 in Q2 15/16)	(down from 92% on Q2 15/16)	Q1 Scotland = 39.3 weeks)	
283 businesses were supported in Q2 2016/17	<b>£43.6k</b> was approved in grants over 13 successful applications to the Scottish Borders Business Fund		<ul> <li>8.6 weeks for non-householders</li> <li>(Q1 Scotland = 10.8 weeks)</li> <li>6.5 weeks for householders</li> </ul>	WORKFORCE WORKFORCE ENVIRONMENT WORKFORCE WURDING WORKFORCE WORKFORCE WORKFORCE WORKFORCE WORKFORCE WORKFORCE WORKFORCE WORKFORCE WORKFORCE WORKFORCE WORKFORCE WORKFORCE
(up from 226 in Q2 15/16)	(up from £23.4k in Q2 15/16)		(Q1 Scotland = 7.1 weeks)	

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## **Priority 1: Sustainable Economic Development – Executive Quarterly PIs**

Short Name	Trend Chart	Value	Commentary	Compared to same time last year	Status against Target	Managed By
Working age population (16 - 64) employment rate	CP01-P001aP What percentage of people aged between 16-64 are in employment?           55%         55%           82.5%         60%           77.5%         76.7%           75%         76.7%           75%         76.7%           75%         76.7%           75%         76.7%           75%         76.7%           75%         76.7%           75%         76.7%           75%         76.7%           75%         76.7%           75%         76.7%           75%         76.7%           75%         76.7%           75%         76.7%           75%         76.7%           75%         76.7%           75%         76.7%           70%         76.7%           70%         76.7%           70%         76.7%           70%         76.7%           70%         76.7%           70%         76.7%           70%         76.7%           70%         76.7%           70%         76.7%           70%         76.7%           70%         76.7%           70%	75.7%	<b>Observations:</b> The number of people in work is now 54,300, which is 900 less than in Q4 of 2015/16. The Scottish Borders rate remains higher than both the Scottish rate (72.9%) and the UK rate (73.8%). Note: One quarter lag in data	Ņ		Bryan McGrath
Working age population (16 - 64) Claimant Count (including Universal Credit and JSA)	CP01-P001bP Working age population (16 - 64) Claimant Count (including Universal Create and JSA)	1.6%	<b>Observations:</b> There were 1080 people claiming out of work benefits in September, 45 less than in June. The Borders rate (1.6%) is lower than the Scottish rate of 2.2% and just slightly lower than the UK rate of 1.8%. The rate is similar to the same time last year (when it was 1.5%) Note: the Scottish figure has been shown as the "target" (in red), and is for comparison purposes only		<b></b>	Bryan McGrath

Short Name	Trend Chart	Value	Commentary	Compared to same time last year	Status against Target	Managed By
Working age population (18 - 24) Claimant Count (including Universal Credit and JSA)	CP01-P001cP Working age population (18 - 24) Claimant Count (including Universal Crect and JSA)		<b>Observations:</b> The average rate of people aged 18-24 claiming out of work benefits was 3.83% in Q2, slightly higher than the Scottish rate of 3.7% (which has been used as the target, marked in red), and higher than last quarter. At the end of September 2016, there were 300 young people claiming out of work benefits, 20 higher than the end of last quarter and the same time last year. Note: the Scottish figure has been shown as the "target" (in red), and is for comparison purposes only	Ņ		Bryan McGrath
Number of new Business Start Ups -Through Business Gateway	CP01-P001dP How many new businesses has Business Gateway help create?	56	<ul> <li>How are we performing: Start-up figures are on forecast for the year and should rise slightly over the winter months. Additional focus is being put on identifying Higher Value start businesses.</li> <li>Actions we are taking to improve/maintain performance: There are now 2 start-up advisers in post which will see an increase in activity locally.</li> </ul>	Ņ		Bryan McGrath

Short Name	Trend Chart	Value	Commentary	Compared to same time last year	Status against Target	Managed By
Business supported through Business Gateway	CP01-P001eP How many businesses has Business Gateway supported?	283	How are we performing: The number of businesses receiving support through BG remains at a steady level. The most encouraging factor is that this number now has a wider spread due to the geographic focus (aligned to SBC's area forum localities) of the advisers. Actions we are taking to improve/maintain performance: The new geographical focus for the advisers is having a positive impact with more referrals coming in from the private sector intermediaries and new businesses finding out about Business Gateway.	Ţ		Bryan McGrath





Short Name	Trend Chart	Value	Commentary	Compared to same time last year	Status against Target	Managed By
Number of Planning Applications Received	CP01-P001j Number of Planning Applications Received           300	327	<b>Observations:</b> The number of planning applications has increased since last quarter and is higher than it was at the same time last year, which is positive in terms of the local economy. As the number of application is dependent on market conditions and actions by third party, the planning service has limited impact on increasing the number of applications received.			Brian Frater
Av.time (wks) taken to process all planning apps - Maj Dev ADJUSTED (cumulative)	CP01-P001kP How long in weeks does it take on average to process all planning applications for major developments?           175.0         applications for major developments?           150.0	0.0	<ul> <li>Observations:</li> <li>There were no major applications determined in the first quarter of 2016/17.</li> <li>Note:</li> <li>One quarter lag in data</li> <li>The yellow line shows SBC's average time during the previous year, and will be used for comparison purposes throughout 16/17</li> <li>The green line shows Scotland's average for the previous year, and will be used for comparison purposes throughout 16/17</li> </ul>			Ian Aikman

Short Name	Trend Chart	Value	Commentary	Compared to same time last year	Status against Target	Managed By
Av.time (wks) taken to process all planning apps - Local Dev (non- householder) - ADJUSTED (cumulative)	CP01-P001IP How long in weeks does it take on average to process all planning applications for non-household developments?	8.6	<ul> <li>How are we performing: The time taken to determine non-householder local applications has seen an appreciable improvement from the annual 2015/16 figure of 17.4 weeks to 8.6 weeks in the first quarter of 2016/17. This performance relates well when measured against the Scottish average of 10.8 weeks for the same quarter.</li> <li>Actions we are taking to improve/maintain performance: Our performance is influenced heavily by the number of legal agreements required under the developer contributions policy but improvement action to streamline this process is now bringing clear improvements in performance.</li> <li>Note: One quarter lag in data Coloured lines as above</li> </ul>			Ian Aikman
Av.time (wks) taken to process all planning apps - Local Dev (householder) - ADJUSTED (cumulative)	CP01-P001mP How long in weeks does it take on average to process all planning applications for household developments?	6.5	How are we performing: There has been a marginal increase in the time taken to determine householder applications to 6.5 from 6.4 the previous quarter. The figure still reflects a progressive improvement in performance in recent years from 7.7 weeks in 2014/15 and 8.6 weeks in 2013/14 and is below the annual 2015/16 figure of 6.7 weeks. The figure is below the Scottish national average of 7.1 weeks for the first quarter of 2016/17. Actions we are taking to improve/maintain performance: As above Note: One quarter lag in data Coloured lines as above			Ian Aikman

