

LGBF 2018-19: Scottish Borders Results

January 2020



LGBF Background

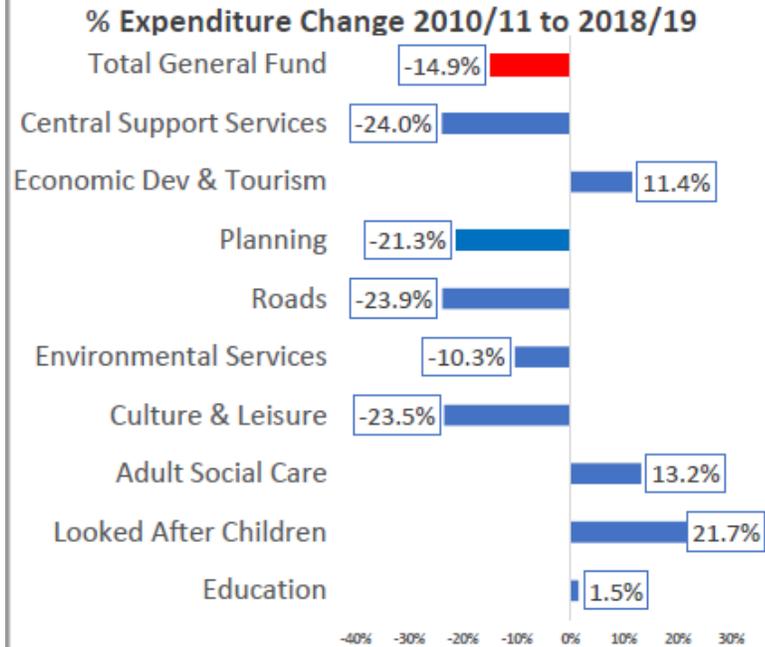
- [Local Government Benchmarking Framework](#) (LGBF) launched in 2013, and reflects a commitment by SOLACE (Scotland) to **develop better measurement/comparable data as a catalyst for improving services** and enhancing public accountability across local government.
- Publicly reporting LGBF is a **statutory 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
- **Amended and added to** over the last few years
 - Economic Development
 - Adult Social Care measures
 - Curriculum for Excellence attainment and gap

LGBF Purpose

- Supports councils to target transformational change resources to areas of greatest impact
 - Allows evidence based comparisons on spending, performance and customer satisfaction between similar councils (“Family Group”)
- Provides high level ‘**can openers**’ to support Senior Managers and Elected Members to ask questions
 - designed to help explore the choices that are being made locally about service design and delivery, and compare these to other councils, particularly within family groups.
 - Cost, performance and satisfaction across a theme should be considered collectively to give a rounded picture of performance.
- LGBF measures **cannot be interpreted in isolation**
 - should be used alongside other performance information to interpret and report on the progress being made against the council’s strategic priorities.

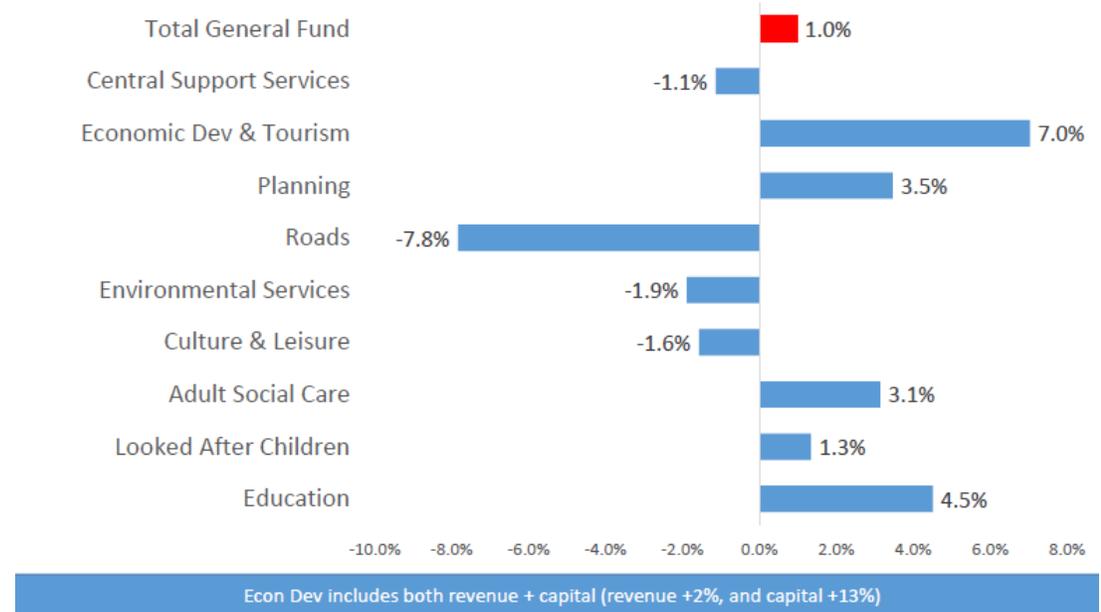
Expenditure Change: Scotland Picture

Since the launch of the LGBF in 2010/11



Econ Dev includes revenue (-28%) and capital (+160%)

Expenditure change in past 12 months



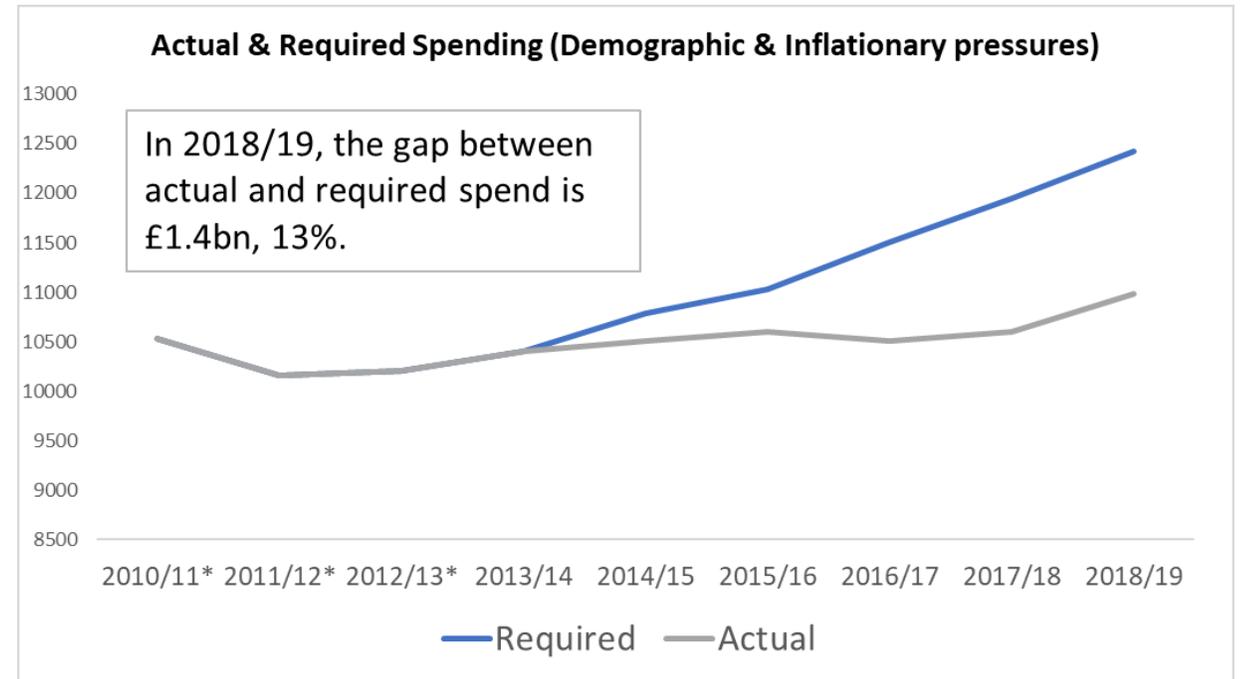
Key Messages

Local Government revenue expenditure levels have been largely preserved , but...

- Total General Fund has grown by 1% in last 12 months (reduced by 0.2% since 2013/14)
- Demographic pressures additional expenditure required to keep pace is estimated at >5% p.a. (real terms).
- Increasing asks on councils in relation to national policy initiatives (+ protections on core budgets)
- Additional impacts on demand from increasing poverty levels
- Impact of recent LG 3 year pay award
- Future impacts of Brexit

Meanwhile SG funding for councils continues to fall

- Revenue Funding reduced by -0.4% in past 12 months, and by -7.5% since 2013/14 (-9.4% since 2010/11)
- Increasing reliance on savings/reserves/charges/income by councils to bridge the gap
- Pressures on the capital core grant creating additional demands on revenue budgets (roads; schools etc.)
- Reductions in funding for LG are predicted to continue.



Overall, the evidence from across the framework suggests that after years of relative progress, the balance may be tipping.

Key national messages: last 12 months

	Progress in past 12 months	Areas where progress is slowing/deteriorating
Children's Services	Educational attainment (5+ passes at Levels 5/6) (including progress for the most deprived pupils)	Dip in Average Tariff (particularly for <u>least deprived pupils</u>) for the first year since launch of framework. Continued reduction in quality ratings for early years provision. Fall in Participation rates (16-19 year olds).
Adult social care	Growth in uptake of direct payments/personal budgets	No growth in home care provision, balance of care at home, or number of people receiving personal care. Fall in quality ratings. Increases in delayed discharges after years of progress, and continued increases in readmissions within 28 days
Housing	Housing quality and energy efficiency continues to improve	Increasing rent arrears (accelerated in past 12 months), and stalled improvement in housing management (voids/repairs) after years of progress
Culture & Leisure	Usage of libraries, sports & museums continues to grow (albeit more slowly)	Satisfaction has fallen for all C&L except Libraries in the past 12 months (although Libraries have seen the biggest reduction since base year). Only parks have largely maintained satisfaction levels.
Environmental	Condition of Roads maintained	Reduction in recycling rates and street cleanliness (slight increase in last 12 months, but overall reducing trend). Satisfaction rates continue to fall.
Corporate	Corporate efficiency/effectiveness – Council Tax, corporate assets	Increase in absence levels for teaching and non-teaching staff. Highest level since framework began for non-teaching staff (alongside 7% reduction in FTE's). 4% increase in absence levels for Teachers.
Economic Development	Procurement spend with local industries; broadband; town vacancy rates; performance in processing business/industry applications	Increase in % people earning less than living wage. Slower progress/deterioration re measures such as unemployed people supported into work & employment land available for use
Citizen Satisfaction	Some areas of satisfaction have increased after year on year reductions (Education; Libraries)	Continued reduction in satisfaction for most services (environmental/culture & leisure – some large reductions in past 12 months)

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

Aberdeenshire

Argyll & Bute

Dumfries & Galloway

Eilean Siar

Highland

Orkney Islands

Scottish Borders

Shetland Islands

“People” Services

Angus

Argyll & Bute

East Lothian

Highland

Midlothian

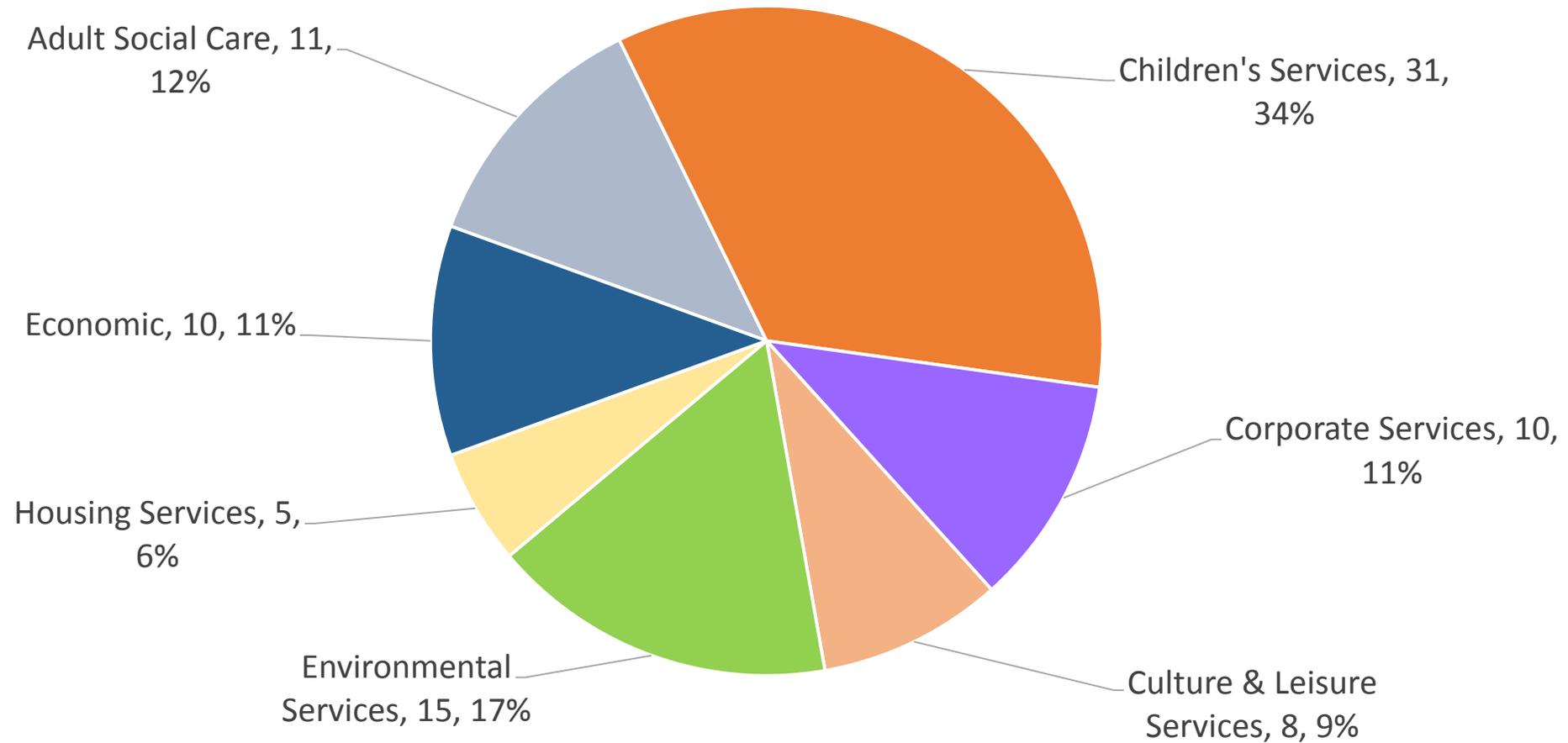
Moray

Scottish Borders

Stirling

LGBF Indicators 2018/19: 90 in Total

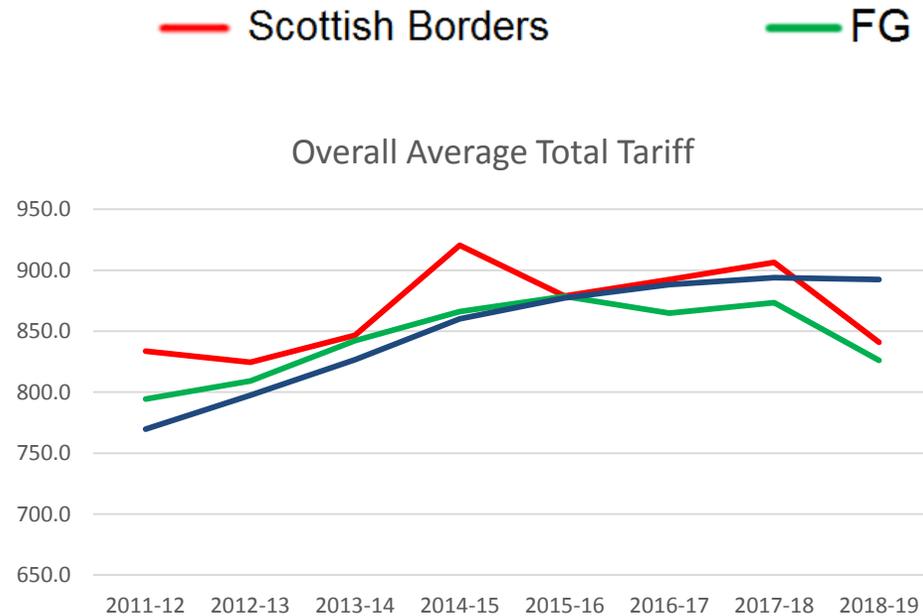
% (and count) of indicators by Service Area



Scottish Borders 18/19

Areas of Challenge

Overall Average Total Tariff for School Leavers



Result for 2018/19

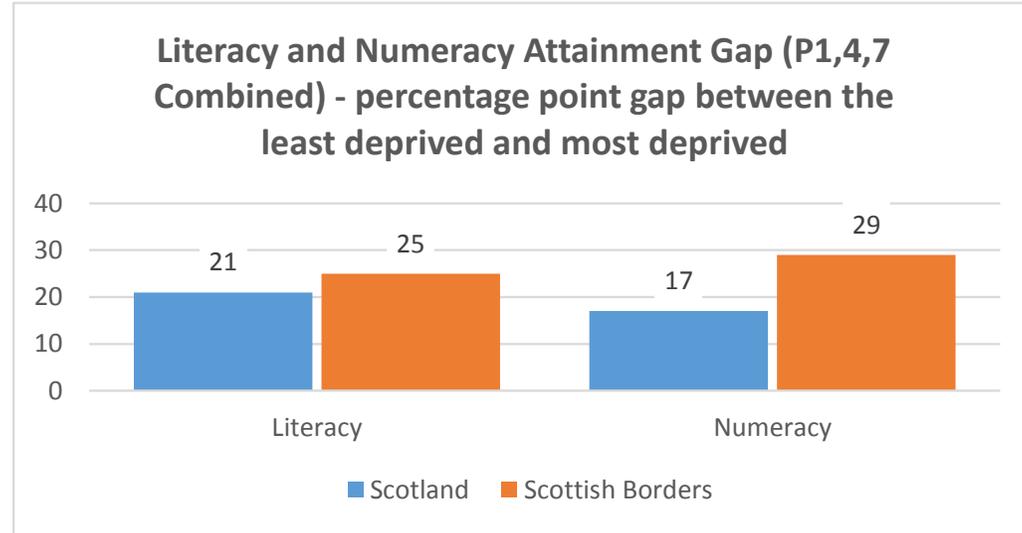
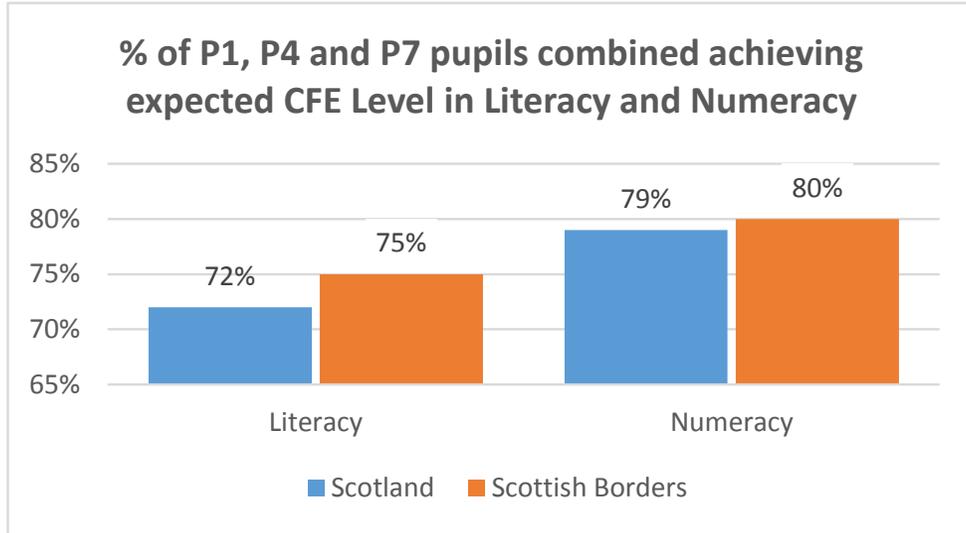
Scottish Borders = 841

Family Group (FG) = 826

Scotland = 892

- Tariff points are Total Tariff Points and doesn't take into account different curriculum structures. For example, if other schools offer 7 subjects and we offer 6, then this would account for the difference in tariff points and the spikey profile.
- Within the Scottish Borders the average total tariff **improved** for pupils in SIMD Quintile 2.

% of P1, P4 and P7 pupils combined Achieving in Expected Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) for Literacy and Numeracy and Gap



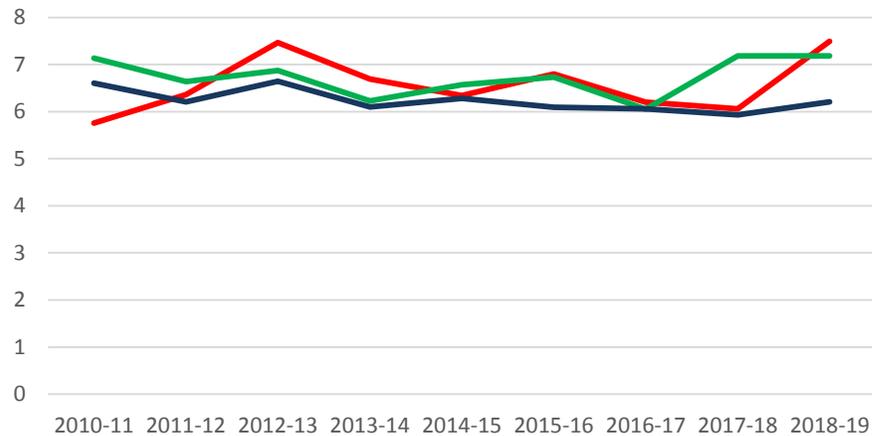
Our aim is 85% by 2024. To enable further progress in increasing attainment for all and close the attainment gap we:

- Introduced a new Tracking and Monitoring System that allows for more robust attainment meetings in schools.
- Development and launch of new SBC Literacy and Numeracy Frameworks.
- Adoption of conceptual numeracy
- Continued roll out of Emerging Literacy

Sickness Absence Days per Teacher and Employee (non-teacher)

— Scottish Borders
 — FG Median
 — Scotland

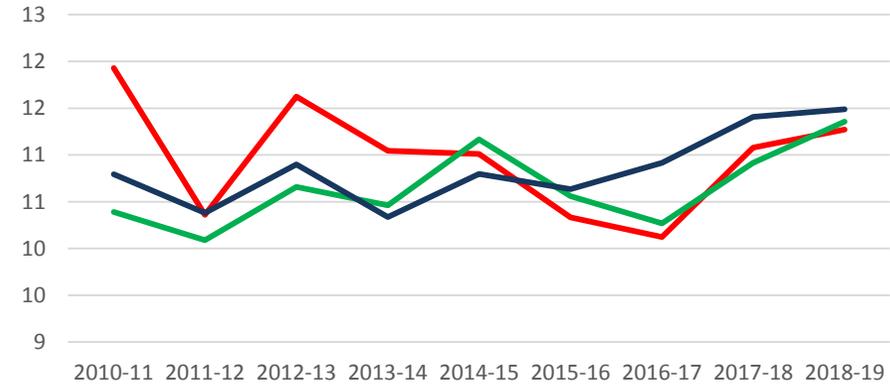
Sickness Absence Days per Teacher



Result for 2018/19

Scottish Borders = 7.50
 Family Group (FG) = 7.18
 Scotland = 6.21

Sickness Absence Days per Employee (non-teacher)

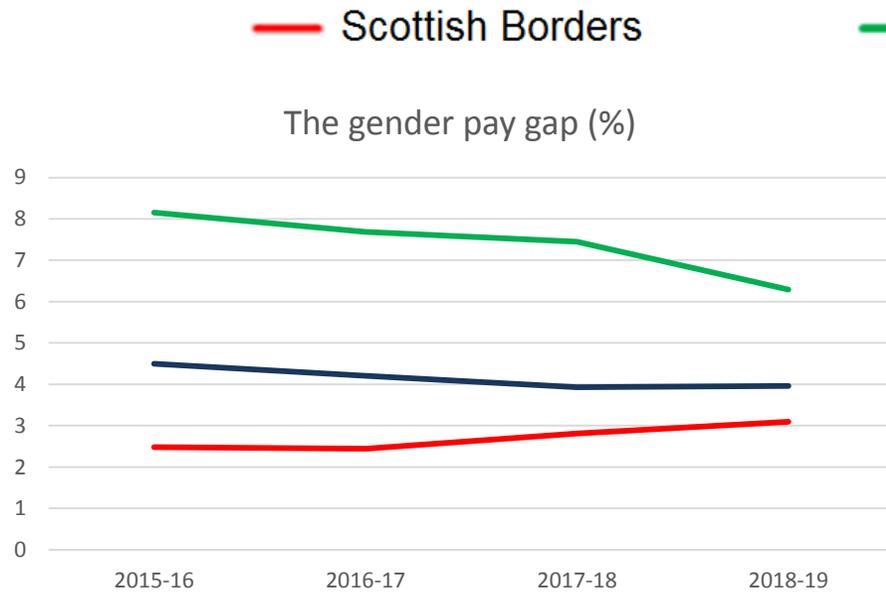


Result for 2018/19

Scottish Borders = 11.27
 Family Group (FG) = 11.36
 Scotland = 11.49

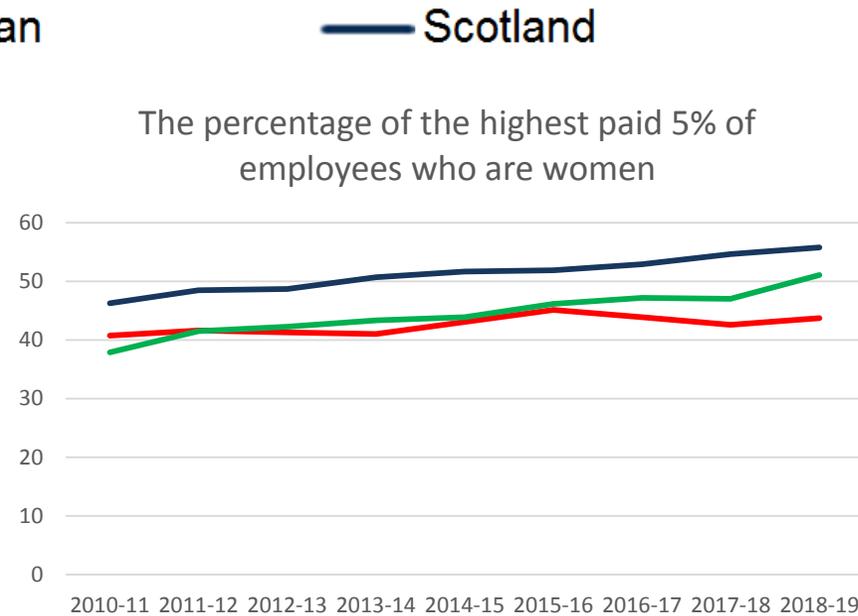
- In 2018/2019 there were a small number of long term absences which resulted in an increase in the absence rates.
- The Council has a number of mechanisms to help support staff to remain at work and maintain their health and wellbeing.

Gender Equality: Pay Gap and Highest Paid 5 %



Result for 2018/19

Scottish Borders = 3.1%
 Family Group (FG) = 6.3%
 Scotland = 4.0%



Result for 2018/19

Scottish Borders = 43.8%
 Family Group (FG) = 51.1%
 Scotland = 55.8%

- The Gender Pay Gap for Scottish Borders is lower than Scotland and Family Group, but increased in 2018-19.
- The percentage of the highest paid 5% of employees that are women for SBC has consistently been below the level for Scotland.
- Decrease in females in higher paid roles- There were a number of female staff who left posts in 2018/2019 and some of those posts were deleted as savings. The Council continues to develop its employee benefits programme and flexible working policies to ensure we attract suitable candidates.

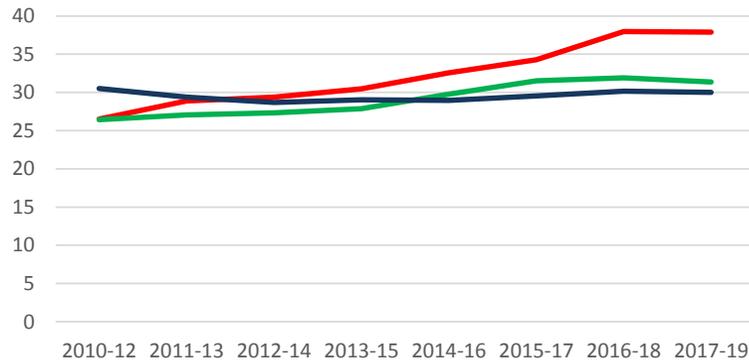
Percentage of Roads requiring maintenance treatment

— Scottish Borders

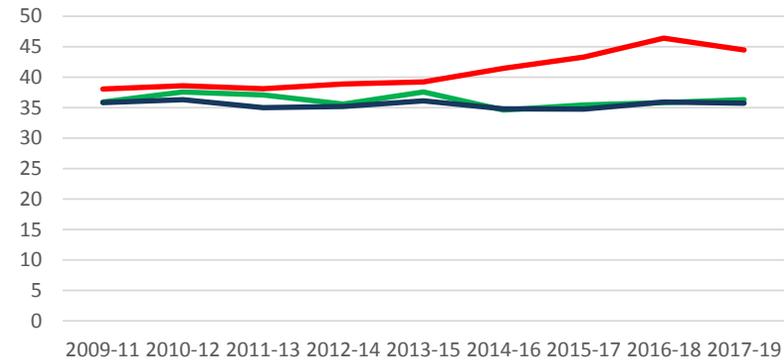
— FG Median

— Scotland

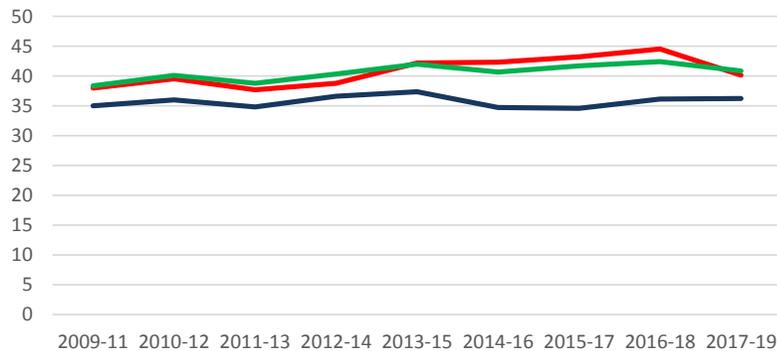
Percentage of A class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment



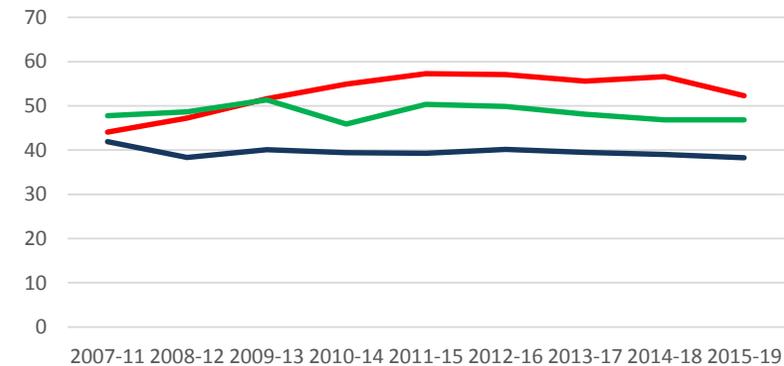
Percentage of B class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment



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



Percentage of unclassified roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment



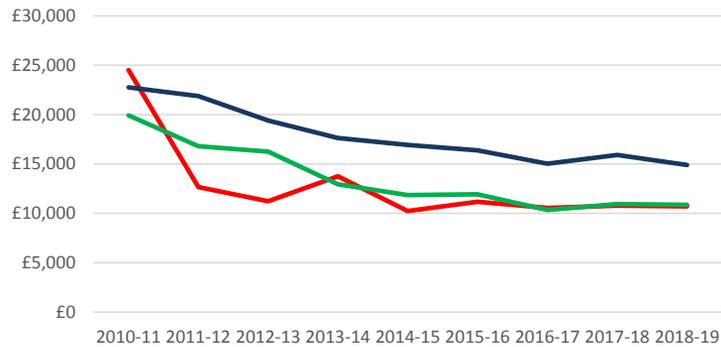
Street Cleanliness: Cost, Score and Satisfaction

— Scottish Borders

— FG Median

— Scotland

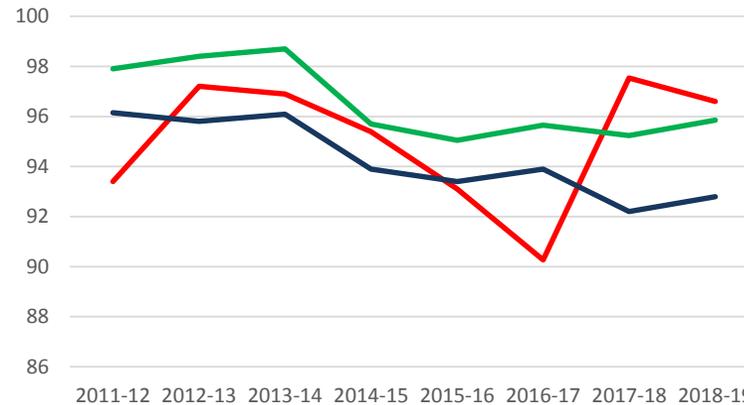
Net cost of street cleaning per 1,000 population



Result for 2018/19

Scottish Borders = £10,697
 Family Group (FG) = £10,850
 Scotland = £14,880

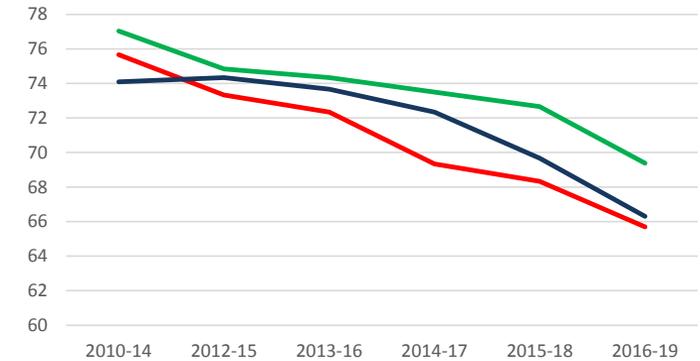
Cleanliness Score (%age Acceptable)



Result for 2018/19

Scottish Borders = 96.6%
 Family Group (FG) = 95.9%
 Scotland = 92.8%

% of adults satisfied with street cleaning

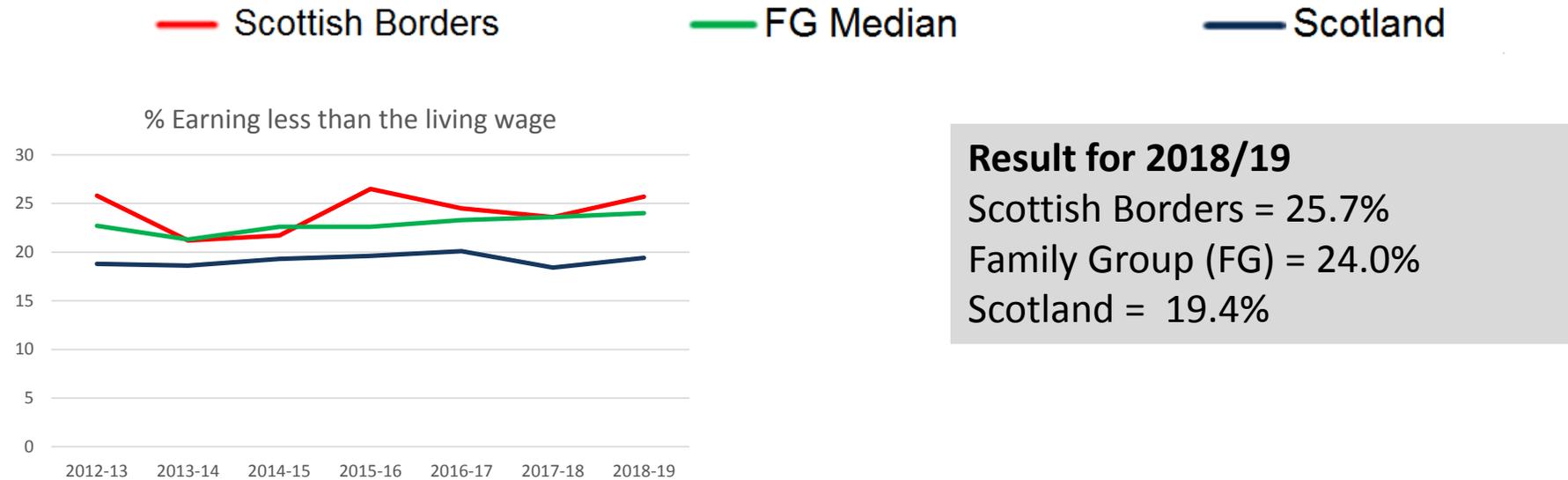


Result for 2018/19

Scottish Borders = 65.7%
 Family Group (FG) = 69.4%
 Scotland = 66.3%

Adult satisfaction with street cleanliness follows the same trend as Scotland and Family Group. The Cleanliness Score for the Scottish Borders has been above both Scotland and Family Group whilst the cost per 1,000 has remained lower.

Proportion of people earning less than the living wage



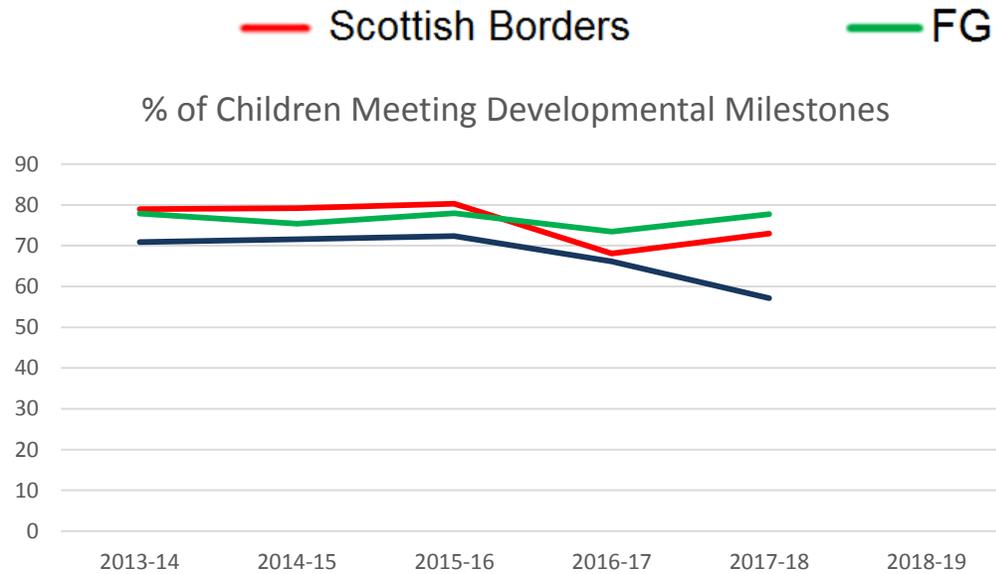
The Council has recently become accredited with the Living Wage Foundation. This requires it to encourage payment of the Living Wage by certain third party sub-contractors where they supply an employee (other than an apprentice or intern) who provides a service to or on behalf of the Council involving 2 or more hours of work in any given day in a week, for 8 or more consecutive weeks in a year on our premises or places where we work. We can't enforce this legally but can use sustainability and fair working practices as drivers.

Scottish Borders

Areas of Improvement for 2018/19



% of Children Meeting Developmental Milestones



Result for 2017/18 (most recent)

Scottish Borders = 73.0%

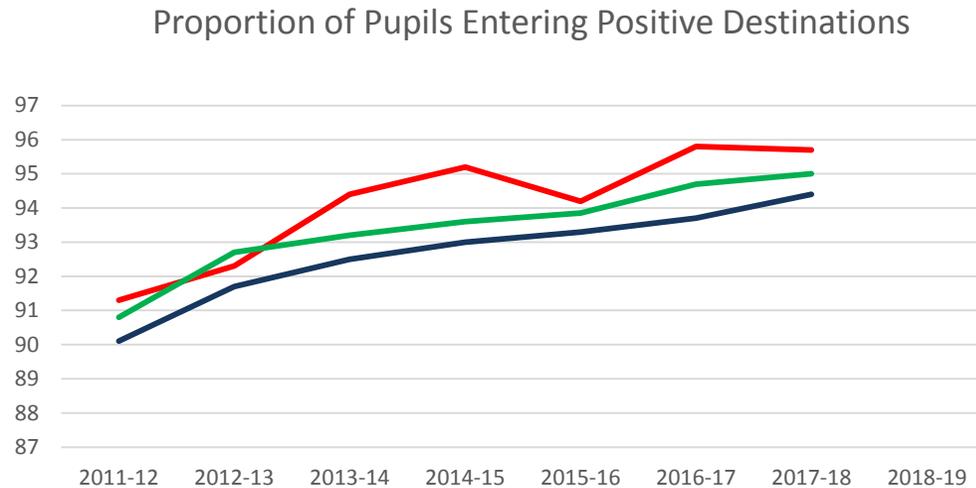
Family Group (FG) = 77.7%

Scotland = 57.1%

The proportion of children (aged 27 to 30 months) meeting developmental milestones has improved for the Scottish Borders between 2016-17 and 2017-18.

Proportion of Pupils Entering Positive Destinations

— Scottish Borders — FG Median — Scotland



Result for 2017/18 (most recent)

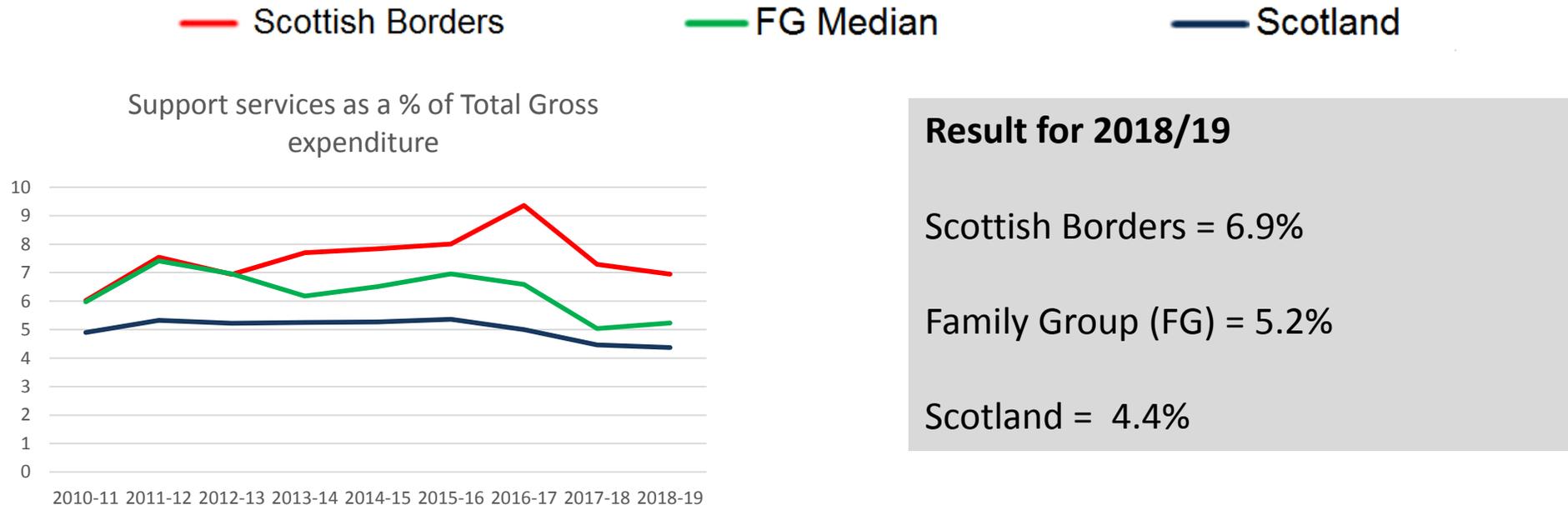
Scottish Borders = 95.7%

Family Group (FG) = 95.0%

Scotland = 94.4%

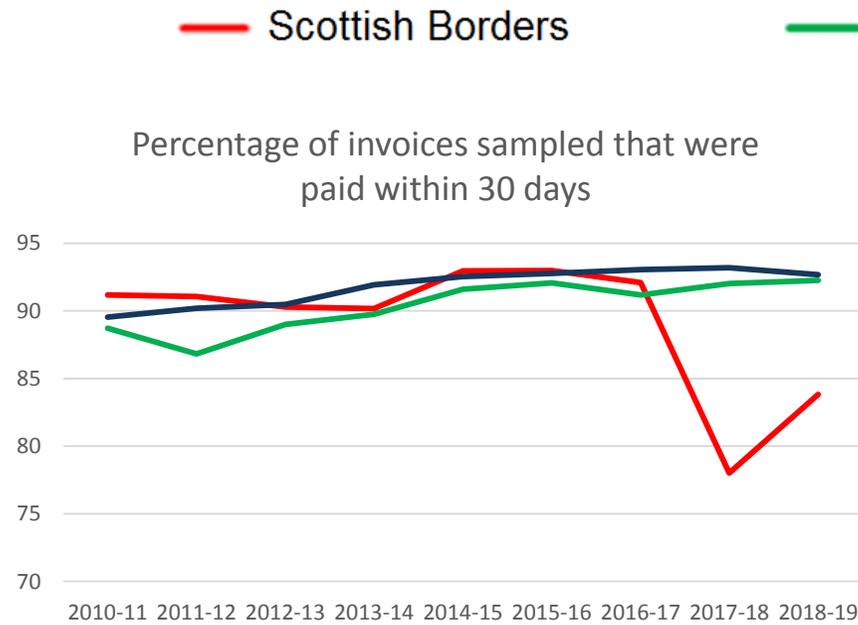
Scottish Borders has consistently had a high proportion of pupils entering positive destinations.

% of total gross expenditure for Support Services



- Ongoing centralisation and consolidation of support services across SBC
- % of total gross expenditure for Support Services for Scottish Borders Council has decreased over two years.
- 13 year contract with CGI for IT services; ambitious programme of digital transformation which will improve processes and the customer journey.
 - Significant initial investment, which was reflected in our 16/17 support costs;
 - Request made to IS for other Councils' IT costs for benchmarking
 - Concern over lack to consistency within Local Finance Return (LFR)

Percent of Invoices Paid within 30 Days



Result for 2018/19

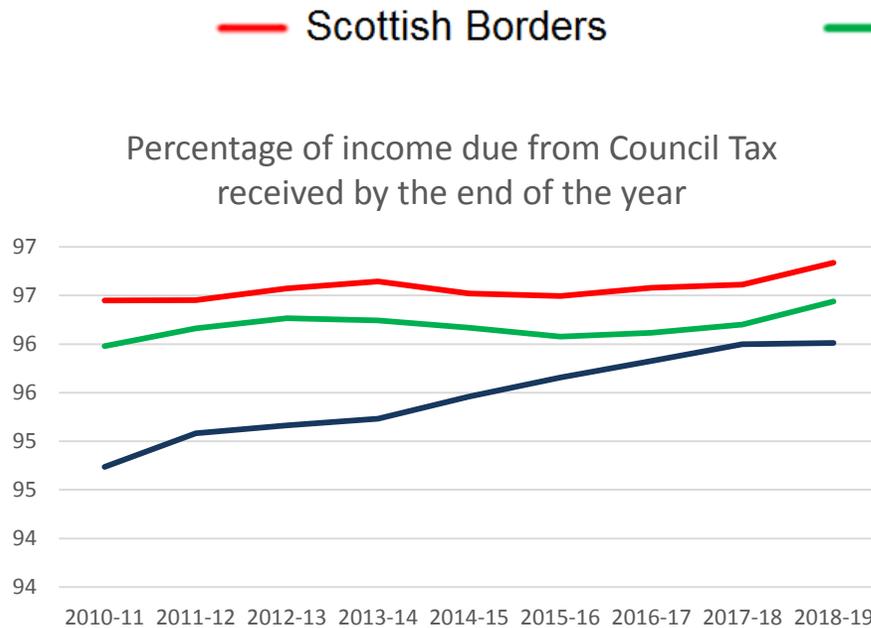
Scottish Borders = 83.8%

Family Group (FG) = 92.2%

Scotland = 92.7%

- After the decrease in 2017-18 (72%), resulting from system implementation, the proportion of invoices paid within 30 days for SBC had increase.

Percentage of income due from Council Tax received



Result for 2018/19

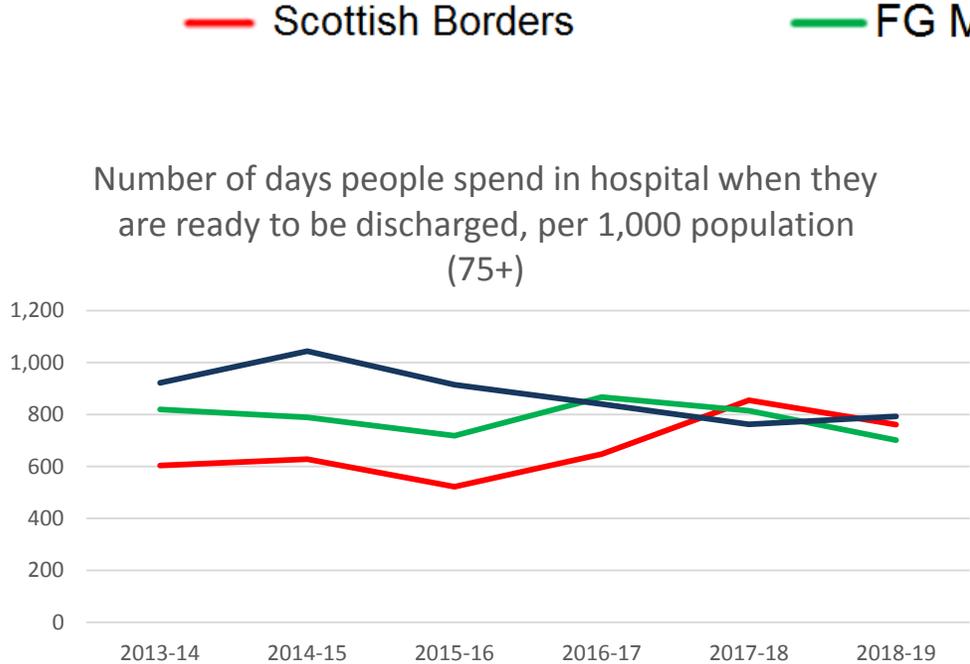
Scottish Borders = 96.8%

Family Group (FG) = 96.4%

Scotland = 96.0%

- Percentage of income due from Council Tax received by the end of the year for SBC has consistently been above that for Scotland and Family Group.

Number of days people spend in hospital when they are ready to be discharged, per 1,000 population (75+)



Result for 2018/19

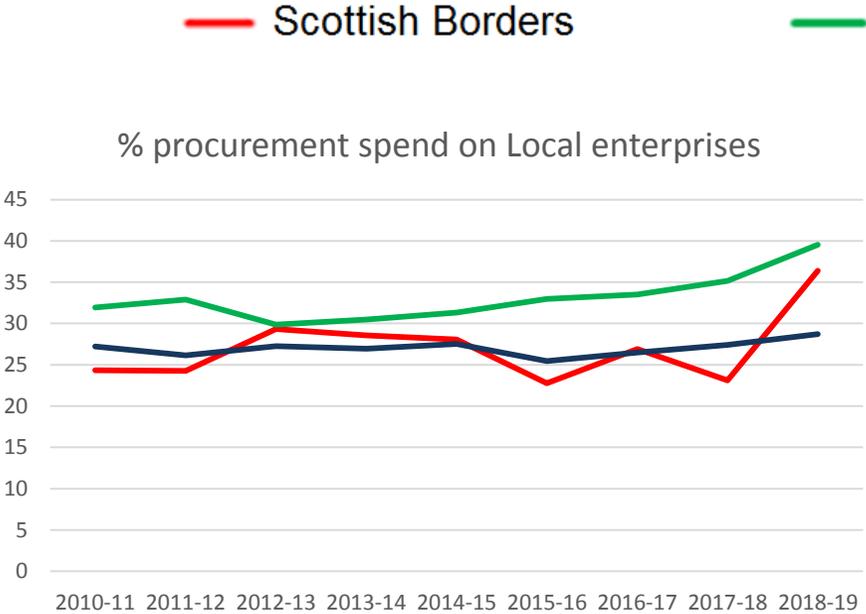
Scottish Borders = 761

Family Group (FG) = 700

Scotland = 792

- After an increase between 2015-16 and 2017-18 the number of days people (aged 75+) spend in hospital when they are ready to be discharged has decreased for the Scottish Borders.

% of procurement spend spent on local enterprises



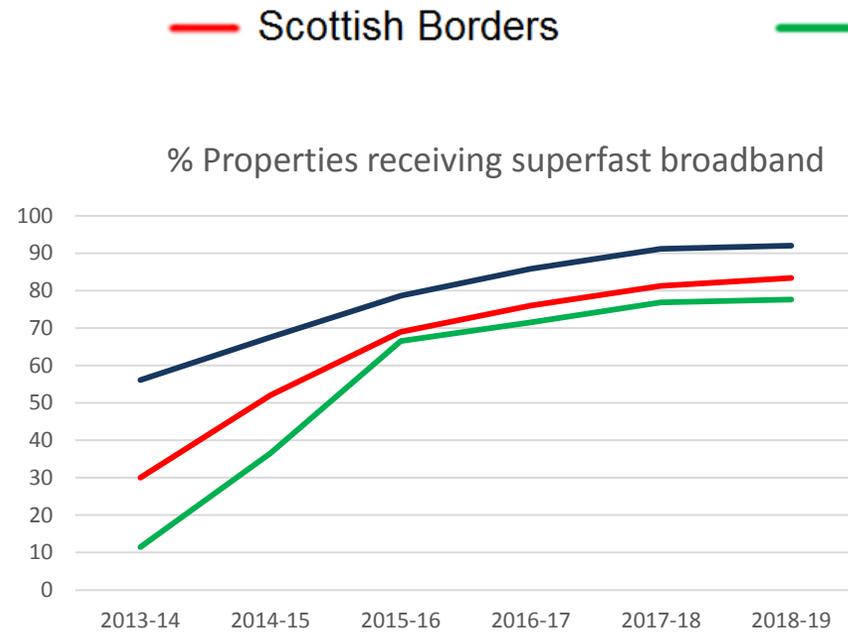
Result for 2018/19

Scottish Borders = 36.4%

Family Group (FG) = 39.5%

Scotland = 28.7%

Proportion of properties receiving superfast broadband



Result for 2018/19

Scottish Borders = 83.4%

Family Group (FG) = 79.5%

Scotland = 92.0%

- Proportion of properties receiving superfast broadband in the Scottish Borders has increased over time, similar to Scotland.
- % in the Scottish Borders continues to be below the Scotland level.

Online tool: [My Local Council](#)

- Easily accessible information/public facing
- 4 aspects to data presentation:
 - Latest data: Local compared to Scotland
 - Data overtime: Local compared to Scotland
 - Latest data for all councils
 - Latest data for similar councils (family group)
- [Local Government Benchmarking on Scottish Borders Council's Website](#)