

Notice of Meeting and Agenda Economy & Jobs Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 22 March 2017	13:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

KENNETH GRAHAM
Head of Corporate Governance

Membership

Councillor John Caldwell: Councillor Lorraine Cameron: Provost Anne Hall: Councillor Jim Harte: Councillor Michael Holmes: Councillor Paul Mack: Councillor Kenny MacLaren: Councillor Mags MacLaren: Councillor Eileen McCartin: Councillor Sam Mullin: Councillor Iain Nicolson: Councillor Jim Paterson: Councillor Jim Sharkey:

Councillor Roy Glen (Convener): Councillor John Hood (Depute Convener):

Members of the Press and Public

Members of the press and public wishing to attend the meeting should report to the customer service centre where they will be met and directed to the meeting.

Further Information

This is a meeting which is open to members of the public.

A copy of the agenda and reports for this meeting will be available for inspection prior to the meeting at the Customer Service Centre, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley and online at www.renfrewshire.cmis.uk.com/renfrewshire/CouncilandBoards.aspx

For further information, please either email democratic-services@renfrewshire.gov.uk or telephone 0141 618 7112.

Items of business

Apologies

Apologies from members.

Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare an interest in any item(s) on the agenda and to provide a brief explanation of the nature of the interest.

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|----------|---|----------------|
| 1 | Revenue Budget Monitoring to 6 January 2017 | 3 - 8 |
| | Report by the Directors of Finance & Resources and Development and Housing Services | |
| 2 | Capital Budget Monitoring Report | 9 - 14 |
| | Report by the Director of Finance & Resources. | |
| 3 | Extension of Invest in Renfrewshire Employment Recruitment Incentive (RERI) | 15 - 18 |
| | Report by the Director of Development & Housing Services. | |
| 4 | Devolved Employability Services in Scotland | 19 - 22 |
| | Report by the Director of Development & Housing Services. | |
| 5 | Big Issue Invest - Corporate Social Venturing Fund | 23 - 26 |
| | Report by the Director of Development & Housing Services. | |
| 6 | Project SEARCH Update | 27 - 32 |
| | Report by the Director of Development & Housing Services. | |
| 7 | Labour Market Update | 33 - 42 |
| | Report by the Director of Development & Housing Services. | |



To: Economy and Jobs Policy Board

On: 22 March 2017

Report by: Director of Finance and Resources and Director of Development and Housing Services

Heading: Revenue Budget Monitoring to 6 January 2017

1. Summary

- 1.1 Gross expenditure is £243,000 (8.7%) greater than budget and income is £243,000 (27.2%) greater than anticipated which results in a net breakeven position for the service reporting to this Policy Board.

This is summarised in the table below:

Division / Department	Current Reported Position	% variance	Previously Reported Position	% variance
Economic Development	Breakeven	-	Breakeven	-

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are requested to note the budget position
- 2.2 Members are requested to note there have been no budget movements since the last report.
-

3. **Economic Development**

3.1 **Current position: Breakeven** ***Previously reported: Breakeven***

At this stage in the financial year the account reflects a breakeven position.

3.3 **Projected Year End Position**

It is projected that a breakeven position will be achieved by the year end.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – Net revenue expenditure will be contained within available resources.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – none
3. **Community Planning** – none
4. **Legal** – none
5. **Property/Assets** – none
6. **Information Technology** - none.
7. **Equality & Human Rights** - The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report because it is for noting only. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.

8. **Health & Safety** – none
9. **Procurement** – none
10. **Risk** – none
11. **Privacy Impact** - none

List of Background Papers

None

Author: Valerie Howie, Extension 7796
Lisa Dickie, Extension 7384

RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL
REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING STATEMENT 2016/2017
1st April 2016 to 06 January 2017

POLICY BOARD : ECONOMY & JOBS

Description (1)	£000's	Revised Annual Budget (2)	Revised Period Budget (3)	Actual (4)	Adjustments (5)	Revised Actual (6) = (4 + 5) £000's	Budget Variance £000's % (7)
Employee Costs		2,274	1,700	1,834	(11)	1,823	(123) -7.2% overspend
Property Costs		149	231	281	0	281	(50) -21.6% overspend
Supplies & Services		59	28	54	4	58	(30) -107.1% overspend
Contractors and Others		515	249	251	0	251	(2) -0.8% overspend
Transport & Plant Costs		0	0	1	0	1	(1) 0.0% break-even
Administration Costs		466	10	26	0	26	(16) -160.0% overspend
Payments to Other Bodies		934	582	575	28	603	(21) -3.6% overspend
CFCR		0	0	0	0	0	0 0.0% break-even
Capital Charges		0	0	0	0	0	0 0.0% break-even
GROSS EXPENDITURE		4,397	2,800	3,022	21	3,043	(243) -8.7% overspend
Income		(857)	(894)	(730)	(407)	(1,137)	243 27.2% over-recovery
NET EXPENDITURE		3,540	1,906	2,292	(386)	1,906	0 0.0% break-even

£000's
0
(0)

Bottom Line Position to 06 January 2017 is break-even of
Anticipated Year End Budget Position is break-even of

0.0%
0.0%

RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL
REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING STATEMENT 2016/2017
1st April 2016 to 06 January 2017

POLICY BOARD : ECONOMY & JOBS

Description (1)	£000's	Revised Annual Budget (2)	Revised Period Budget (3)	Actual (4)	Adjustments (5)	Revised Actual (6) = (4 + 5) £000's	Budget Variance £000's (7)	%	break even break even break even
Economic Development		3,428	1,843	2,234	(391)	1,843	0	0.0%	break even
Town Centre		112	63	58	5	63	0	0.0%	break even
NET EXPENDITURE		3,540	1,906	2,292	(386)	1,906	0	0.0%	break even

£000's

Bottom Line Position to 06 January 2017 is breakeven of
Anticipated Year End Budget Position is breakeven of

0
(0)

0.0%
0.0%



To: ECONOMY & JOBS POLICY BOARD

On: 22 MARCH 2017

Report by: Director of Finance and Resources

Heading: Capital Budget Monitoring Report

1. Summary

- 1.1 Capital expenditure to 6th January 2017 totals £4.122m compared to anticipated expenditure of £3.998m for this time of year. This results in an over-spend position of £0.124m for those services reporting to this board, and is summarised in the table below:

Division	Current Reported Position	% Variance	Previously Reported Position	% Variance
Development & Housing Services	£0.124m o/spend	3% o/spend	£0.124m o/spend	4% o/spend
Total	£0.124m o/spend	3% o/spend	£0.124m o/spend	4% o/spend

- 1.2 The expenditure total of £4.122m represents 63% of the resources available to fund the projects being reported to this board. Appendix 1 provides further information on the budget monitoring position of the projects within the remit of this board.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that Members note this report.

3. **Background**

- 3.1 This report has been prepared by the Director of Finance and Resources in conjunction with the Chief Executive and the Director of Development & Housing Services.
- 3.2 This capital budget monitoring report details the performance of the Capital Programme to 6th January 2017, and is based on the Capital Investment Programme which was approved by members on 3rd March 2016, adjusted for movements since its approval.

4. **Budget Changes**

- 4.1 Since the last report budget changes totalling £0.250m have arisen which reflects a transfer from revenue in 2016/17 in the refurbishment programme for 5 High Street, Paisley.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – The programme will be continually monitored, in conjunction with other programmes, to ensure that the available resources are fully utilised and that approved limits are achieved.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – none.
3. **Community Planning** –
Greener - Capital investment will make property assets more energy efficient.
4. **Legal** – none.
5. **Property/Assets** – none.
6. **Information Technology** – none.
7. **Equality & Human Rights** – The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
8. **Health & Safety** – none.
9. **Procurement** – none.
10. **Risk** – none.
11. **Privacy Impact** – none.

List of Background Papers

- (a). Capital Investment Programme 2016/17 & 2017/18 – Council, 3rd March 2016.

The contact officers within the service are:

- Geoff Borland, Extension 4786
- Fraser Carlin, Extension 7933

Author: *Geoff Borland, Principal Accountant, 0141 618 4786, geoffrey.borland@renfrewshire.gov.uk.*

Economy & Jobs - Appendix 1

RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

CAPITAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY - NON-HOUSING SERVICES

BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

BOARD: ECONOMY & JOBS

Project Title	Approved Programme @03/03/16	Current Programme MR 10	Year To Date Budget to 06-Jan-17	Cash Spent to 06-Jan-17	Variance to 06-Jan-17	% Variance	Cash to be Spent by 31-Mar-17	% Cash Spent
DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING								
Paisley Town Centre Regeneration	124	171	100	80	20	20%	91	47%
Russell Institute	2,500	3,796	2,857	2,907	-50	-2%	889	77%
Paisley Museum Store	3,157	1,993	799	720	79	10%	1,273	36%
Paisley Library Relocation	0	350	242	264	-22	-9%	86	76%
5 High Street, Paisley Refurb	0	250	0	151	-151	100%	99	60%
TOTAL ECONOMY & JOBS BOARD	5,781	6,559	3,998	4,122	-124	-3%	2,437	63%



To: Economy & Jobs Policy Board

On: 22 March 2017

Report by: Director, Development & Housing Services

Heading: Extension of Invest in Renfrewshire Employer Recruitment Incentive (RERI)

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report seeks approval to extend the revised Invest in Renfrewshire Recruitment Incentive (RERI) approved by Board on 1st February in order to:
- increase the number of recruitment incentives for those aged over 50 years; and
 - create new recruitment incentives for clients who are chronic long term unemployed on health related benefits participating on the City Deal Working Matters Programme.
- 1.2 The recently approved RERI programme committed existing funding from the ESF Youth Employment Initiative for 16-29 year olds and previous approval was given for up to 20 recruitment incentives for those aged 50+.to be funded through the ESF Employability Pipeline Programme.
- 1.3 The new proposal would allow for up to 60 additional wage incentives to be supported through the existing Renfrewshire Council ESF applications to support the creation of additional posts in local companies for priority groups.
- 1.4 The additional incentives will be funded by existing approved grant programmes supported by the European and Structural Investment Funds (ESIF) through the European Social Fund (ESF) Employability Pipeline.
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2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the board:

- i. agree to increase the numbers of RERI offers by 60 places, total maximum cost of £240,000, to support clients of the Working Matters programme and an increased number of 50+ Invest in Renfrewshire clients; and
 - ii. agree that further updates on employer recruitment incentives will be reported to the Economy and Jobs Policy Board.
-

3. Background

- 3.1 Since its launch in 2012, Invest in Renfrewshire has provided a range of wage incentives to local employers to create jobs for young, unemployed people. These programmes have been funded by Renfrewshire Council, the Scottish Government and European Social Funds and have contributed to significantly reducing youth unemployment in Renfrewshire from 9.5% (1430 individuals) to the current rate of 3.8% (575 individuals).
- 3.2 In 2015 the Board recognised the growing numbers of unemployed people over the age of 50 years and approved a small budget to provide wage incentives for this group.
- 3.3 The number of claimants aged over 50 years currently sits at 775 people and this group makes up 25 % of all registered unemployed in Renfrewshire. Older people find it increasingly difficult to find employment and are more likely to be longer term unemployed. They are a priority group for Invest in Renfrewshire.
- 3.4 Another priority group are those individuals in receipt of Employment Support Allowance (ESA) and long term sickness benefits. This group are not included in the Claimant Count numbers which relate to Universal Credit and JSA claimants but they represent 11% of the total working age population.
- 3.5 The Working Matters Programme targets this particular group and is being delivered as part of the City Deal by all 8 local authorities in Glasgow City Region. Those with significant health barriers to employment are considerably more disadvantaged in the labour market and the average Working Matters client in Renfrewshire has been unemployed for more than 13 years; over 70% are aged over 40 years.
- 3.6 The Working Matters programme in Renfrewshire has a target of 451 engagements and 68 job outcomes by August 2018. To date the programme has engaged 200 individuals and has had 1 confirmed job outcome with several others currently on permitted work.

- 3.7 Individuals supported by Working Matters have multiple and complex barriers to employment and the progression rates to date provides evidence of the challenge for these individuals to compete effectively in the labour market. A tailored recruitment incentive would assist in creating suitable employment for these individuals and employers would receive in work and financial support to enable these individuals to make the transition to sustainable employment.

4 Extending the Renfrewshire Employer Recruitment Incentive (RERI)

- 4.1 It is proposed to extend the current approved RERI programme to target those with health related barriers on the Working Matters Programme and to increase the number of 50+ wage subsidy places.
- 4.2 The extended programme will provide a maximum of 60 additional incentives of up to £4000 each. The costs of this can be met from the existing approved Renfrewshire Council employability programmes supported by the European and Structural Investment Funds (ESIF) through the European Social Fund (ESF) Employability Pipeline.
- 4.3 The extended programme will be supported by an additional dedicated member of staff to work with employers to create and broker 60 additional jobs for the target groups. This additional post can also be fully funded from existing resources and will work alongside the existing Invest in Renfrewshire team for the duration of the programme.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – There are no financial implications. All costs will be met through the approved ESF programme budgets as previously presented to Board.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – Programme will be managed within the existing Invest in Renfrewshire team and the additional post requested will work specifically to achieve the additional 60 Recruitment Incentives over the next 15 months.
3. **Community Planning – Jobs & The Economy** – This proposal will contribute to the approved job creation targets
4. **Legal** – This is in accordance with the European Structural & Investment Fund (ESIF) National Rules in accordance with the Offer of Grant accepted
5. **Property/Assets** – None
6. **Information Technology** – None

7. **Equality & Human Rights** - The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report.
 8. **Health & Safety** – None
 9. **Procurement** – None
 10. **Risk** – None
 11. **Privacy Impact** – None
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List of Background Papers

None

For further information contact Ruth Cooper, Economic Development Manager,
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Author: Sandra Inrig, ext 778694, Sandra.inrig@renfrewshire.gcsx.gov.uk

8 March 2017



To: Economy and Jobs Policy Board

On: 22 March 2017

Report by: Director of Development and Housing Services

Heading: Devolved Employability Services in Scotland

1. Summary

- 1.1 The Scottish Government has recently procured devolved employability services for Scotland at a value of £96M to be delivered from April 2018 to March 2021.
 - 1.2 Renfrewshire falls within a work package area that covers the local authority areas of Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, West Dunbartonshire and East Dunbartonshire.
 - 1.3 All five local authorities are interested in exploring a joint bid to deliver the services within the contract area. This short report requests delegated authority to explore the options and opportunities presented by the new contracts and, if viable, to submit a bid to deliver elements of the contract.
-

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Note that the new devolved contracts for Scotland were announced on 9th March 2017.
 - 2.2 Delegate authority to the Director of Development and Housing Services to explore the options and opportunities presented by the contracts and, if viable, to submit a joint bid with the other local authorities to deliver services across the 5 local authority areas.
 - 2.3 Agree that a further report is brought to the Economy and Jobs Board updating on any actions taken.
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3. Background

- 3.1 The Scottish Government is working to take forward the Smith Commission agreement that employment support programmes currently contracted by DWP be devolved on expiry of their current commercial arrangements. This includes the contracts to deliver the Work Programme (the UK Government's main employment programme for long term unemployed people) and Work Choice (the disability employment service).
- 3.2 Small pilot contracts have already been procured from 1 April 2017:
- The Work First Scotland (WFS) programme will deliver high quality employment support to those with a disability in Scotland from April 2017, who want and need help to enter and remain in the labour market.
 - The Work Choice programme will support clients with a health condition and at risk of long term unemployment who want to enter work.

These pilots will create a platform for the delivery of a new Scottish Government programme from April 2018 through working in partnership with Stakeholders to build on best practice and establish support that achieves high quality outcomes.

- 3.3 The Scottish Government recently announced its intention to establish a Scottish employability service that creates a strong platform for future services.
- To design and deliver a high quality, high performing service that helps people into sustained jobs, treating them with fairness, dignity and respect.
 - To focus on those further from the labour market but for whom work remains a realistic prospect.
 - To have a nationally consistent service, but to be delivered locally using public, third sector and private capabilities; and
 - To integrate and align services to maximise value for money.

- 3.5 Future Scotland Contracts will be as follows:

Contract	Local authority area
1	Glasgow
2	North and South Lanarkshire
3	Angus, Dundee City and Perth and Kinross
4	Falkirk, Stirling and Clackmannanshire
5	City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, Midlothian, Scottish Borders, West Lothian, Fife
6	North Ayrshire, South Ayrshire, East Ayrshire, Dumfries and Galloway

7	Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire
8	Argyll and Bute, Eilean Siar, Highland, Moray, Orkney Islands, Shetland Islands
9	East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire, East Dunbartonshire, West Dunbartonshire, Inverclyde

4. Fair Start Scotland Employability Services 2018

- 4.1 The service contracts were published on 9th March and the programme will be known as Fair Start Scotland.
- 4.2 The Scottish Government will require the Service Providers to deliver the services as part of the devolution of employment support under section 31 of the Scotland Act 2016. Namely, it will provide support for unemployed disabled people and people claiming reserved benefits who are at risk of long-term unemployment. The aim is to provide a tailored, coherent range of support which can respond flexibly to the individual needs of unemployed people and their employers and make best use of resources. The programme will deliver high quality employment support to unemployed people, including those with complex issues who want to work and need help to enter and/or remain in the labour market.
- 4.3 Contract package 9 (which includes Renfrewshire) was not published and is set to be reserved for a supported business. No other information is available at this time.
- 4.4 The contracts published amount to £86,400,000 and so work package 9 is estimated to be around £9.6M over 3 years.
- 4.5 A significant number of local authorities are interested in bidding for Fair Start contracts. Local Authorities are both experienced and well placed to deliver services that would dovetail to other employability provisions and provide a joined up approach at a local level.
- 4.6 Prior to the contract being published there were a number of meetings to discuss the opportunity and potential to jointly bid as a consortium of local authorities. All of the local authorities in work package 9 (East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire, East Dunbartonshire, West Dunbartonshire and Inverclyde Councils) were interested in exploring this further.
- 4.7 The news that Work Package 9 is being held for a supported business is disappointing however the local authorities are interested in seeing where a partnership with the supported business might be possible and could prove beneficial.
- 4.8 As such, it is recommended that further work, delegated to the Director of Development and Housing Services, is undertaken to explore the options and opportunities presented by the contract and, if viable, to submit a joint bid with the other local authorities to deliver services across the 5 local authority areas.

- 4.9 A further report to board will uptake on the work undertaken and any decisions made.
-

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – £96M is available for the whole of Scotland to cover a three year period.
 2. **HR & Organisational Development** – none
 3. **Community Planning – Jobs and the Economy** – the programme will support vulnerable unemployed people
 4. **Legal** – none
 5. **Property/Assets** – none
 6. **Information Technology** – none
 7. **Equality & Human Rights** -
The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report as it is for noting only. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
 8. **Health & Safety** – none
 9. **Procurement** - none
 10. **Risk** – none at present. A risk analysis will form part of the decision making
 11. **Privacy Impact** - none
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List of Background Papers

None

Author: Ruth Cooper, ext 7868, ruth.cooper@renfrewshire.gov.uk



To: Economy and Jobs Policy Board

On: 22 March 2017

Report by: Director of Development and Housing Services

Heading: Big Issue Invest – Corporate Social Venturing Fund

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update to the May 2016 Economy and Jobs Policy Board report which outlined the Big Issue Invest Corporate Social Venturing Fund and the request for Renfrewshire Council to contribute towards this programme.
 - 1.2 The Board delegated authority to the Director of Development and Housing Services to enter into further discussions and negotiations with Big Issue Invest around a potential Renfrewshire Council investment of up to £50,000 to the Scotland Corporate Social Venturing Fund.
 - 1.3 This paper updates the board on progress and recommends approval of the finance towards the fund.
-

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board:
 - i. approve the allocation of £50,000 to the Big Issue Invest Corporate Social Venturing Fund for the sole use of loans to Renfrewshire companies;
 - ii. agree that the loan fund will be released once confirmation of necessary funding from all partners is achieved and an appropriate service level agreement is signed by Renfrewshire Council and Big Issue Invest; and
 - iii. note that further updates will be provided to Board.
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3. Background

- 3.1 Big Issue Invest is the social investment arm of The Big Issue. Founded in 2005, Big Issue Invest extends The Big Issue's mission to tackle poverty and create opportunity by financing the growth of sustainable social enterprises.
- 3.2 Renfrewshire Council has been invited by Big Issue Invest to become Scotland's first local authority partner in the launch of a new loan Fund for early stage social enterprises.
- 3.3 The Big Issue Invest Scotland Corporate Social Venturing Fund is raising investment finance from a range of Scottish public and private bodies and charitable trusts including BT, the University sector, The Life Changes Trust and possible match funding from The Scottish Government. The lead investment partner is Standard Life Investments and it will cover the revenue costs of the programme. Big Issue Invest planned to launch the Fund in June 2016 but financial commitments to support the programme have been slower than anticipated. At this stage is now expected to launch in Summer 2017.
- 3.4 The Fund builds on Big Issue Invest's track record in managing a number of grant and loan funds across the UK in recent years. The Fund differs from mainstream grant and loan funds in that the corporate partners will not only provide funding for successful applicants, but also business support through staff expertise and mentoring.
- 3.5 Renfrewshire Council has been asked to invest up to £50,000 in the Fund. This investment would be committed exclusively to Renfrewshire social enterprises. The Fund's investment decisions would be made by an Investment Panel drawn from the funding partners.

4. Progress and Further Actions

- 4.1 Following the Board in May a number of discussions and meetings took place with Big Issue Invest to clarify, in particular, the role of the Council as a funder of the Initiative and the conditions of funding for local companies.
- 4.2 The programme will launch this year on confirmation of funding from other key partners: Standard Life Investments, Edinburgh University, Virgin Money and Scottish Government and this is hoped to be in early summer.
- 4.3 Renfrewshire Council funding will be held for Social Enterprises based in Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire Social Enterprises will also get access to the wider pot of funding available.
- 4.4 Following Board approval work will commence on the Service Level agreement and funding will not be released until this is signed by both parties (Renfrewshire Council and Big Issue Invest). Further reports will be brought back to board once the programme is operational.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – The £50k investment would be made from existing social economy budgets provided through Invest in Renfrewshire.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – none
3. **Community Planning – Jobs and the Economy** – Support to local social enterprises will increase their capacity to deliver services, build their sustainability and achieve wider economic impact.
4. **Legal** – Support is required from Legal Services on the development of the Service Level Agreement.
5. **Property/Assets** - none
6. **Information Technology** – none
7. **Equality & Human Rights** -
The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report as it is for noting only. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
8. **Health & Safety** – none
9. **Procurement** – checks with procurement will be made to ensure compliance with regulations,
10. **Risk** – none
11. **Privacy Impact** - none

List of Background Papers

1. Economy and Jobs Policy Board, 25th May 2016, "Social Enterprise Progress Update"

Author: Ruth Cooper, ext 7868, ruth.cooper@renfrewshire.gov.uk

8 March 2017



To: Economy and Jobs Policy Board

On: 22 March 2017

Report by: Director of Development and Housing Services

Heading: Project SEARCH Update

1. Summary

- 1.1 In May 2015, Renfrewshire Council's Economy and Jobs Policy Board approved the commitment of £200,000 over two years to offer Project SEARCH, an employability intervention targeting people with learning disabilities or autism. The first cohort was successfully delivered with the second cohort currently being delivered. The purpose of the report is to provide members with an update on progress and to request delivery of a third cohort.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board:
- i. notes the progress to date in delivering Project Search;
 - ii. agrees to the delivery of a third cohort, commencing July 2017; and
 - ii. agrees that a further report is brought to the Economy and Jobs Board updating on Project Search performance.
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3. Background

- 3.1 Project Search is an employability programme for people with learning disabilities or autism.

- 3.2 Project Search originated in the United States in Cincinnati Children's Hospital and is now active in 40 US states and 4 European countries, including the United Kingdom.
- 3.3 Participants essentially attend a college course which is delivered on location within a host business, in this case Renfrewshire Council. The course is delivered across term-time (August – June) and includes classroom-based learning, as well as three work placement rotations. Each rotation lasts for approximately 10 - 12 weeks and is supported by on the job coaching.

4. Renfrewshire's Project Search

- 4.1 Invest in Renfrewshire's Project SEARCH course has 12 places available for each cohort.
- 4.2 The course is delivered in partnership with Glasgow Clyde College, as they are only college in the West of Scotland currently delivering Project Search. Glasgow Clyde College leads on the qualification delivery of the programme, provides a college tutor and commits substantial funding by matching their student fees to the delivery costs of Project Search.
- 4.3 Job coaching is provided by a member of the Invest in Renfrewshire team and supplemented, as required, by Enable Scotland trained job coaches. This additional job coach service was procured through our usual processes. The costs are co-financed through the ESF (Social Inclusion) Programme.
- 4.4 Students initially attend a summer school, which is delivered at Glasgow Clyde College throughout July (one day each week) to help their transition into the course and also to bond as a 'team' of students. This has proven to be very beneficial for the students and has assisted with retention and outcomes.

5. Cohort One

- 5.1 All 12 available places for Cohort One (August 2015 – June 2016) were utilised.
- 5.2 Students completed work placements in areas such as, waste recycling, business administration, janitorial, catering, housekeeping within care homes and leisure assistant.
- 5.3 11 of the 12 students completed the course and successfully achieved an SCQF Level 3 Employability Award qualification, which is certificated by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA).

5.4 9 of the students (75% of those who started the course) have moved onto a positive destination.

- 6 students secured jobs of 16 hours or more per week;
- 1 student secured a traineeship; and
- 2 students moved onto a higher level of training or education.

Invest in Renfrewshire continues to support the remaining 3 students towards a positive destination.

6. Cohort Two

6.1 All 12 available places for Cohort Two (August 2016 – June 2017) were utilised. 11 students remain on the programme.

6.2 All students have successfully completed their first work placement and are currently in work placement rotation 2. Work placements are similar to those noted at Section 5.2.

Students are also progressing well towards the completion of their qualification.

6.3 Ongoing feedback from services on student progress has been consistently positive for this group of students. We are confident therefore that all of the students will complete the programme and many will progress to a positive destination.

7. Request for Cohort Three

7.1 Board previously approved an allocation of £200,000 for the delivery of two cohorts. Expenditure for the first two cohorts has been well managed and has therefore been less than anticipated.

7.2 The programme has also proven successful to date in terms of positive outcomes for Cohort One and we expect this to be replicated with Cohort Two.

7.3 Board is asked to approve the delivery of a third cohort for a further 12 students to commence in July 2017 and running until end June 2018. Costs for this will be borne from underspends from the original budget allocation and from existing ESF Programme funds available until the end of December 2018.

7.4 Further reports on progress will be prepared for board.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – Funds are committed from the Invest employability budget and EU funds will part match fund the programme. The initiative is included within the council's Poverty and Social Inclusion ESF application where funding is committed and available until end Dec 2018.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – The Project Search co-ordinator post will be extended for a further year.
3. **Community Planning** –
Jobs and the Economy – the programme will support vulnerable unemployed young people with a disability into work and will support them to gain work experience and qualifications.
4. **Legal** – none
5. **Property/Assets** – Project Search requires a training room and a 'homeroom' where the programme lecturer is available all day if any issues arise. A training room is currently available within Assurance House. Alternative arrangements will be made when the Employability Service transfers to Russell Institute.
6. **Information Technology** – many of the Project Search trainees will require a computer on placement. This is supplied through the host department.
7. **Equality & Human Rights** –
The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report as it is for noting only. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
8. **Health & Safety** – health and safety is in place for all participants and can be enhanced to suit each individual.
9. **Procurement** - none
10. **Risk** - none
11. **Privacy Impact** - none

List of Background Papers

- (a) "Invest in Renfrewshire Operating Budget 2015-16" Report to the Economy and Jobs Policy Board, 20 May 2015.

The foregoing background papers will be retained within Development and Housing for inspection by the public for the prescribed period of four years from the date of the meeting.

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8 March 2017



To: Economy and Jobs Policy Board

On: 22 March 2017

Report by: Director of Development and Housing Services

Heading: Labour Market Update at December 2016

1. Summary

- 1.1 This paper provides the Policy Board with the most recent labour market statistics for Renfrewshire (end of January 2017). Where the data is available a comparison is made with the Scottish and UK figures.
 - 1.2 It should be noted that the reporting of unemployment stats has been changed nationally to incorporate new experimental Universal Credit figures. The report now reports on "Claimant Count" unemployed (a combination of JSA and UC claimants) where previously (prior to May 2016) only JSA figures were available.
-

2. Recommendations

Board members are asked to:

- (i) note the employment and claimant count figures for January 2017; and
 - (ii) note the change in reporting to new experimental statistics incorporating the Universal Credit figures.
-

3. Background

- 3.1 The report provides the most recent employment and claimant count figures (published for end January 2017).
- 3.2 As previously reported, there have been changes to the claimant count on **nomis**, which is part of the Office for National Statistics (ONS). Now, Job Seeker's Allowance (JSA) and Universal Credit (UC) are measured together in one statistic: **the claimant count**.

- 3.3 The overall, long term goal of *nomis* is that **the claimant count** will be the **total number of JSA claimants + unemployed UC claimants**. These statistics are still experimental, but they allow for a comparison of Renfrewshire with Scotland and the UK.
- 3.4 For Renfrewshire, we currently have information on the following:
- **All Ages: 16+ (16-64)**
 - **Youth: 18-24**
 - **25-49**
 - **50+**
- 3.5 The claimant count is a measure of the number of people with live claims for the principal reason of being unemployed. Previously, Job Seeker's Allowance (JSA) was the main unemployment benefit. Now, Universal Credit (UC) is a new benefit also incorporated. However, UC is not an unemployment benefit entirely, given that some UC claimants will be in work, while others are unemployed but not required to seek work.
- 3.6 The experimental statistics still include UC claimants who are not in-work, but are also not required to seek work – a group that skew the statistics for as long as they are counted.
- 3.7 These new experimental statistics that now combine JSA and UC stretch as far back as January 2013 when the first pilots were introduced. Although experimental, this new claimant count is now the new standard. By contrast, the previous norm of using purely JSA claimants is no longer the official claimant count and is being slowly phased out.
- 3.8 Board reports from May 2016 now report on the Claimant Count figures.
-

4. Labour Market Statistics for the month of January 2017

- 4.1 Renfrewshire's employment rate continues to be above both the Scottish and UK average with 74.8% in employment compared to 72.8% (Scotland) and 73.9% (UK).
- 4.2 A further breakdown of the employment figures show that the female employment rate 74.2% is considerably higher than the Scottish (69.1%) and UK (69.0%) averages but the male figures are lower.
- 4.3 Renfrewshire is currently ranked 17th out of 32 local authorities for employment.
- 4.4 Renfrewshire's overall Claimant Count figure for January 2017 is 2.5% with 2,840 people claiming JSA and Universal Credit. This figure marginally increased, by 0.1% from the December count and is 0.1% lower than this time last year.

- 4.5 Renfrewshire's youth claimant count rate is currently reported as 3.6% with claimants totalling 535 for January 2017. This is the same rate as the previous month (December 2016) but is 0.2% higher than at this point last year (January 2016). Renfrewshire is currently ranked 19th out of the 32 local authorities.
- 4.6 Adult unemployment for Claimants aged 25 – 49 has increased over the past month by 0.2% and sits at 2.8% and with claimants totalling 1,570. The rate from this period last year was higher at 2.9% and 1,625 claimants.
- 4.7 The adult Claimant rates for those aged 50+ has marginally increased by 0.1% in the fourth quarter and is currently 2.0% with claimants totalling 725. The Claimant Count figures show that the rate for this group is the same as last year but with slightly less claimants.
- 4.8 The attached newsletter contains additional statistical information and graphs.
-

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** - None
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – None
3. **Community Planning – Jobs and the Economy** - Labour market intelligence is vital to informing future policy and service delivery decision making across the Community Planning Partnership.
4. **Legal** – None
5. **Property/Assets** – None
6. **Information Technology** – None
7. **Equality & Human Rights** -
The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report because it is for noting only.
8. **Health & Safety** – None.
9. **Procurement** – None
10. **Risk** – None
11. **Privacy Impact** - None

List of Background Papers

None

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14 March 2017

Renfrewshire Economic Development

Newsletter – January 2017

The Claimant Count

The claimant count is a measure of the number of people with live claims for the principal reason of being unemployed. Previously, Job Seeker's Allowance (JSA) was the main unemployment benefit. Now, Universal Credit (UC) is included.

These new experimental statistics that now combine JSA and UC stretch back to January 2013 when Universal Credit started to roll out in pilot areas. Although experimental, this new claimant count is now the new standard. By contrast, the previous norm of using purely JSA claimants is no longer the official claimant count and is being slowly phased out.

Employment and unemployment (Oct 2015-Sep 2016)

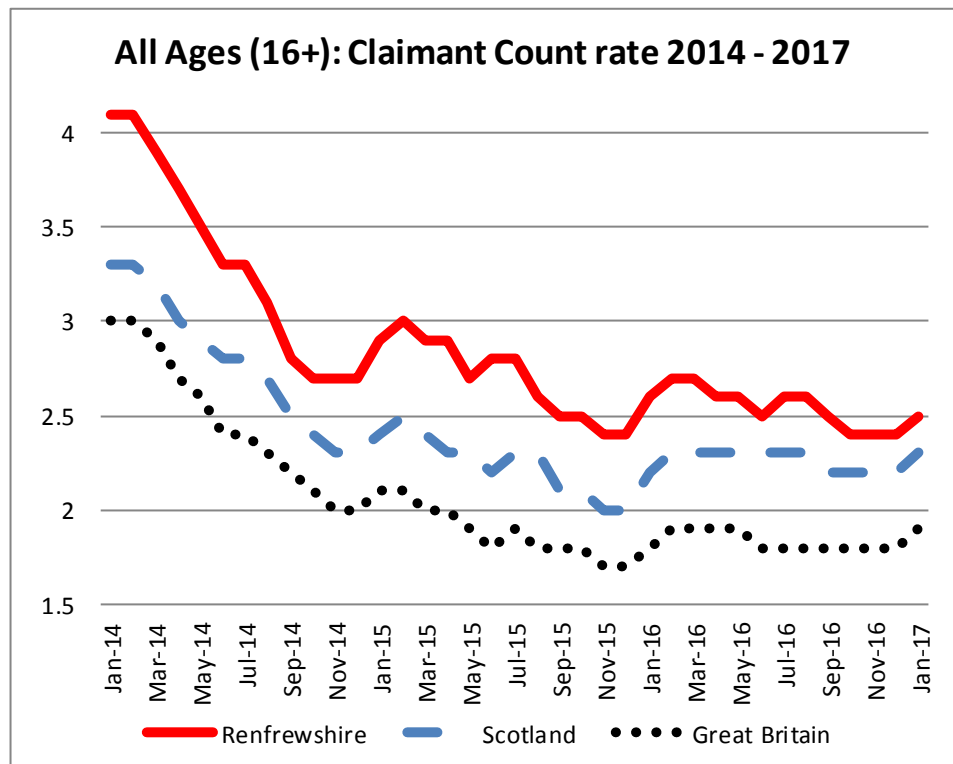
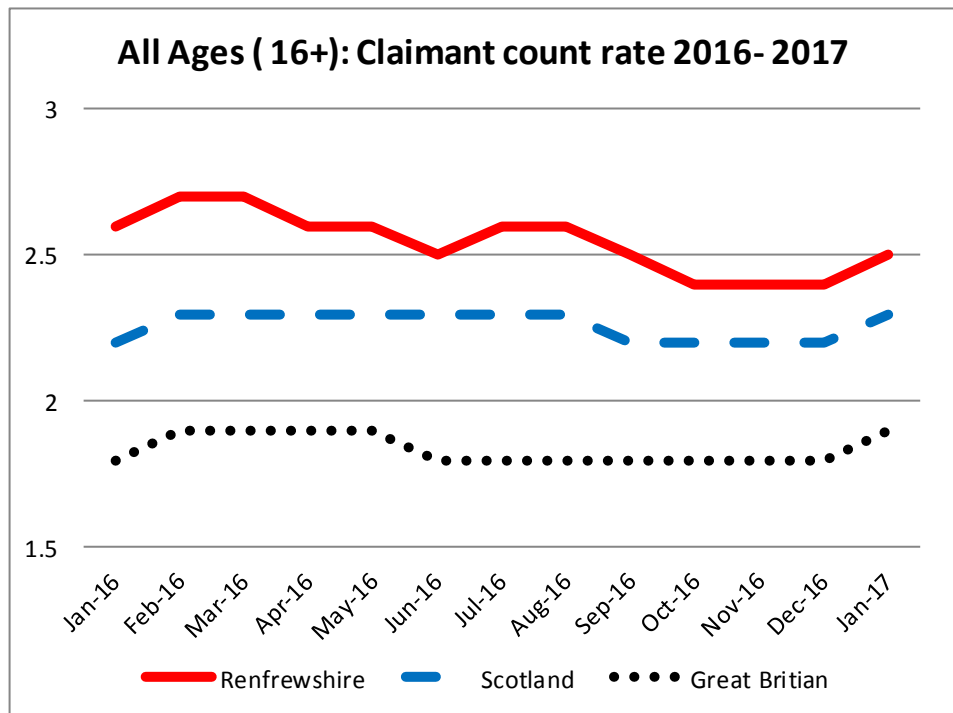
	Renfrewshire (Numbers)	Renfrewshire (%)	Scotland (%)	Great Britain (%)
All People				
Economically Active†	89,100	78.8	76.7	77.8
In Employment†	84,800	74.8	72.8	73.9
Employee‡	76,400	67.5	64.2	63.1
Self Employed‡	8,300	7.1	8.2	10.4
Unemployed (Model-Based)§	4,700	5.2	4.9	4.9
Males				
Economically Active†	44,800	80.4	81.2	83.1
In Employment†	42,200	75.5	76.7	78.8
Employee‡	36,200	65.0	65.2	64.4
Self Employed‡	5,800	10.2	11.1	14.0
Unemployed§	2,700	5.9	5.4	5.1
Females				
Economically Active†	44,300	77.2	72.4	72.6
In Employment†	42,600	74.2	69.1	69.0
Employee‡	40,200	70.0	63.2	61.7
Self Employed‡	2,500	4.2	5.4	6.9
Unemployed§	1,700	3.8	4.4	4.8

Source: ONS annual population survey

January 2017: Claimant Count Figures

Claimant Count: All Ages (16+)

- The claimant count rate for Renfrewshire for January 2017 was 2.5%, with claimants totalling 2,840.
- This month the rate has increased by 0.1%.
- The rate this time last year was 2.6%.

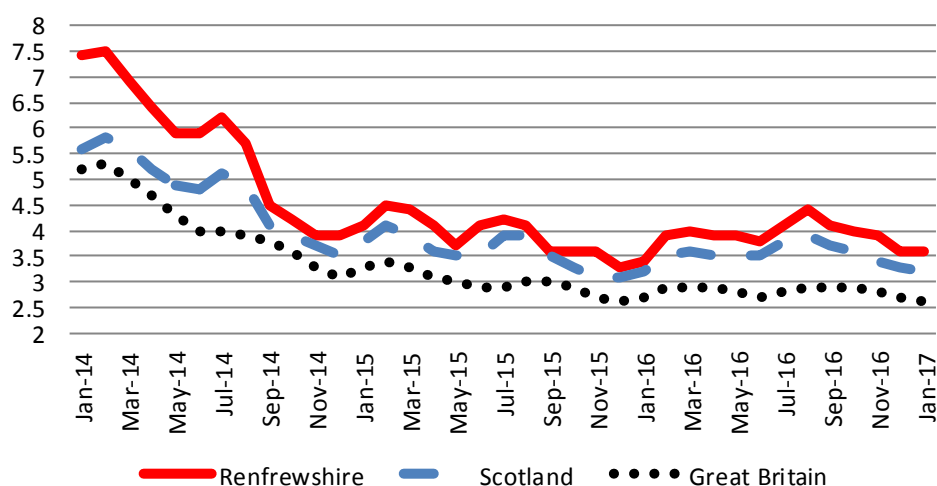


Claimant Count:

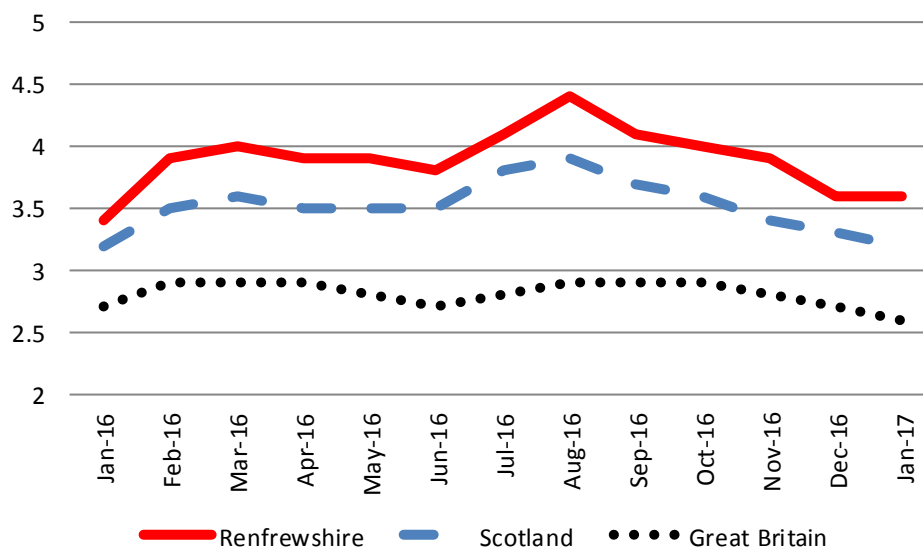
Youth (18-24)

- The claimant count rate for Renfrewshire for January 2017 was 3.6% with claimants totalling 535.
- This month the rate has remained the same.
- The rate this time last year was 3.4%

Youth (18-24): Claimant count rate 2014 -2017

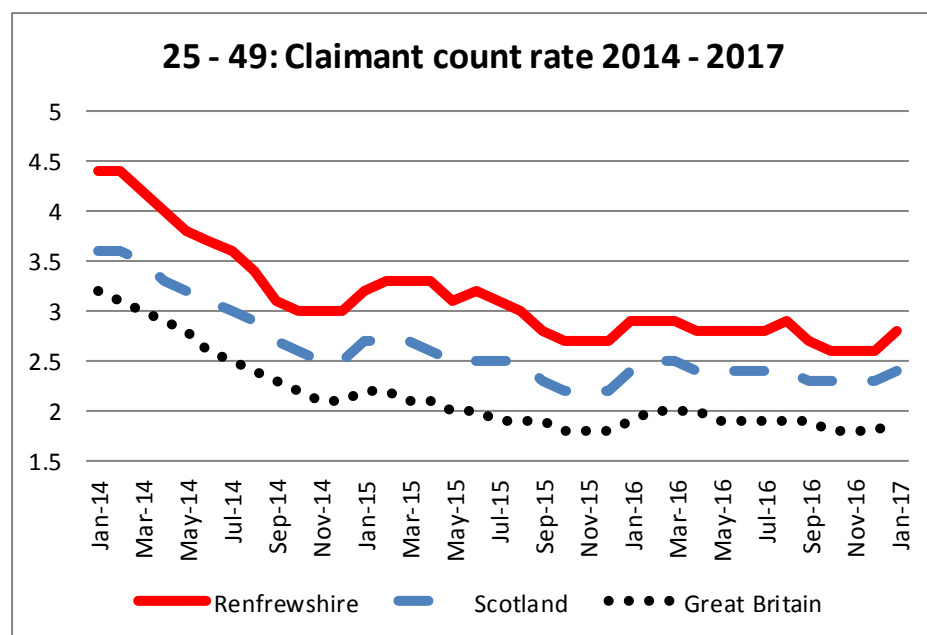
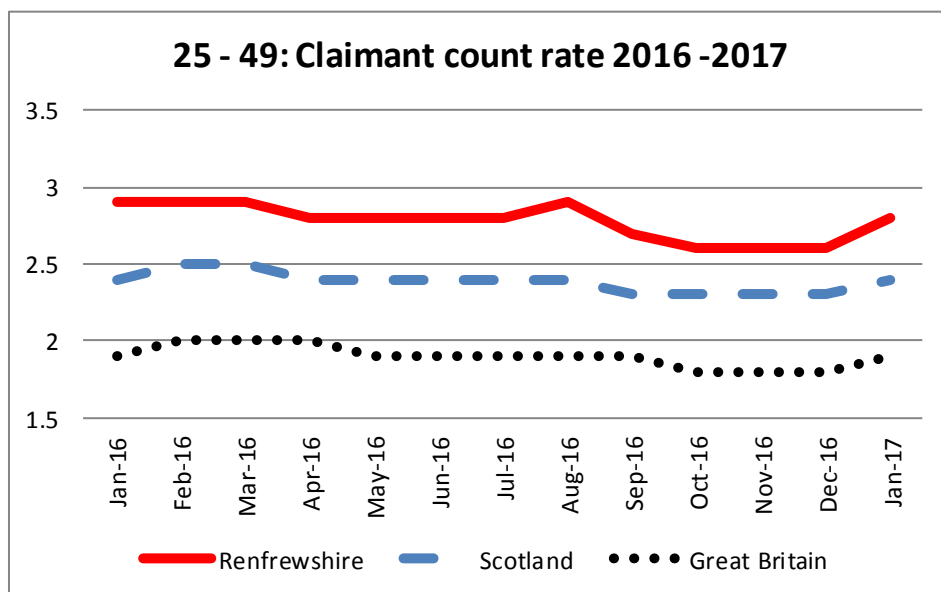


Youth (18-24): Claimant count rate 2016 - 2017



Claimant Count: 25-49

- The claimant count rate for Renfrewshire for January 2017 was 2.8% with claimants totalling 1,570.
- This month the rate has increased by 0.2%.
- The rate this time last year was 2.9%



Claimant Count: 50+

- The claimant count rate for Renfrewshire for January 2017 was 2.0 with claimants totalling 725.
- This month the rate has marginally increased, by 0.1%.
- The rate was the same this time last year at 2.0%

Source: ONS claimant count by sex and age

Note: % is number of claimants as a proportion of resident population of the same age

