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HARTLEPOOL TOPS THE NORTH EAST LEAGUE WITH 15.9 UNEMPLOYED CLAIMANTS CHASING EACH JOB VACANCY

The number one political priority has to be securing a reduction in unemployment by creating jobs, by stimulating demand in the economy, not by cutting wages and shedding jobs says GMB

In second half of 2011 there were 15.9 unemployed workers chasing each live unfilled job vacancy in Hartlepool a new GMB analysis shows. Hartlepool was top of the North East league with the highest ratio of claimants to unfilled job vacancies. In Hartlepool during this period there was a monthly average of 4,268 unemployed claimants chasing a monthly average of 269 live unfilled job vacancies. Next in the league in terms of number of claimants for each unfilled vacancy were South Tyneside 14.8; Middlesbrough 12.4 and Redcar and Cleveland 11.5. Below are the figures for the 12 areas in the North East for this period.

The figures show that in the North East region there were a total of 87,396 unemployed claimants chasing a total of 11,177 unfilled job vacancies. That means that there were 7.8 unemployed workers chasing each unfilled job vacancy across the region as a whole.

The figures show that in Great Britain there were a total of 1,504,172 unemployed claimants chasing a total of 289,839 unfilled job vacancies. That means that there were 5.2 unemployed workers chasing each unfilled job vacancy across the country as a whole.

The number of unemployed claimants chasing each unfilled vacancy by region in Great Britain is as follows in descending order: Scotland 7.8; North East 7.8; London 7.7; Yorkshire and Humber 6.3, Wales 5.6; North West; 5.5 West Midlands 4.8; East Midlands 4.0 Eastern England 3.9; South East 3.5 and South West region 3.4.

All these figures are from a new GMB analysis of the live unfilled vacancies and total claimants. The figures were for the period between July and December 2011 and show the monthly average for both over 6 months. The full table with all 204 areas in Great Britain is set out as a pdf at the foot of the national release on this subject on the GMB website (www.gmb.org.uk).

Live unfilled vacancies and total claimants in the 12 areas in the North East, July-December 2011 (monthly average over the 6 months)

	live unfilled vacancies	total claimants	ratio
Great Britain	289,839	1,504,172	5.2
North East	11,177	87,396	7.8
Local council areas			

1	Hartlepool	269	4,268	15.9
2	South Tyneside	448	6,618	14.8
3	Middlesbrough	564	7,015	12.4
4	Redcar and Cleveland	473	5,460	11.5
5	North Tyneside	735	6,197	8.4
6	Stockton-on-Tees	797	6,631	8.3
7	County Durham	1,930	14,361	7.4
8	Northumberland	1,063	7,649	7.2
9	Gateshead	888	6,282	7.1
10	Sunderland	1,705	10,149	6.0
11	Darlington	607	3,461	5.7
12	Newcastle upon Tyne	1,699	9,306	5.5

Tom Brennan GMB Regional Secretary for Northern Region said **“The rise in unemployment since the recovery stalled was made in Downing Street.**

The truth is that jobs are haemorrhaging in the public and private sectors and no one in Parliament seems to know what to do to stop this.

There are parts of the region like Middlesbrough and Hartlepool in such despair that more than a quarter of households with people of working age have no one in work. The prospects for these are bleak since the number of unemployed workers chasing each vacancy across the region is even higher than shown. Across the UK there are 1.2 million unemployed who are not claimants.

The number one political priority has to be securing a reduction in unemployment by creating jobs, by stimulating demand in the economy, not by cutting wages and shedding jobs.”

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Notes to editors

1) Source: ONS July – December 2011. Vacancy figures are those notified to Jobcentre Plus by employers. Live unfilled vacancies are those that a jobseeker can apply for, i.e. vacancies that have not yet been filled or suspended.

2) The vacancy and claimant count data is available down to district level. Journalists who require data at district level should contact the GMB press office.