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NORTH AYRSHIRE TOPS THE SCOTTISH LEAGUE WITH 17.3 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 17.3 unemployed workers chasing each live unfilled job vacancy in North Ayrshire a new GMB analysis shows North Ayrshire was top of the Scottish league with the highest ratio of claimants to unfilled job vacancies. In North Ayrshire during this period there was a monthly average of 5,526 unemployed claimants chasing a monthly average of 320 live unfilled job vacancies. Next in the league in terms of number of claimants for each unfilled vacancy were Clackmannanshire 17.1; East Ayrshire 16.9 and West Dunbartonshire 15.1. Below are the figures for the 29 areas in Scotland for this period.

The figures show that in Scotland there were a total of 141,693 unemployed claimants chasing a total of 18,098 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 29 areas in Scotland, July-December 2011 (monthly average over the 6 months)

		live unfilled vacancies	total claimants	ratio
	Great Britain	289,839	1,504,172	5.2
1	Scotland	18,098	141,693	7.8
	Local council areas			

1	North Ayrshire	320	5,526	17.3
2	Clackmannanshire	108	1,848	17.1
3	East Ayrshire	271	4,585	16.9
4	West Dunbartonshire	245	3,694	15.1
5	South Lanarkshire	679	9,160	13.5
6	East Dunbartonshire	151	1,843	12.2
7	Dundee City	473	5,549	11.7
8	South Ayrshire	270	2,953	10.9
9	East Renfrewshire	132	1,414	10.7
10	Renfrewshire	550	5,567	10.1
11	Argyll and Bute	186	1,882	10.1
12	Eilean Siar	49	493	10.1
13	Fife	1,084	10,873	10.0
14	Glasgow City	2,502	24,754	9.9
15	North Lanarkshire	1,199	11,861	9.9
16	Midlothian	212	2,016	9.5
17	Scottish Borders	220	2,072	9.4
18	Falkirk	509	4,461	8.8
19	East Lothian	241	1,988	8.2
20	Dumfries and Galloway	385	3,172	8.2
21	Angus	317	2,281	7.2
22	Stirling	276	1,911	6.9
23	Inverclyde	427	2,752	6.4
24	West Lothian	857	4,399	5.1
25	Moray	284	1,394	4.9
26	Highland	831	3,755	4.5
27	Edinburgh, City of	2,510	11,118	4.4
28	Shetland Islands	44	180	4.1
29	Aberdeenshire	617	2,287	3.7

Harry Donaldson Regional Secretary for the Scottish 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 Scotland like Glasgow, North Ayrshire and East Ayrshire 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.