

Local Economy

These pages contain a range of performance information on the progress that the council is making towards the achievement of the following organisational priority:

To grow our local economy in a way that creates job opportunities for all our residents, including access to good quality jobs and lifelong learning

The performance information provided here is taken from the high level indicators in the council's Corporate Plan and the council's key performance indicators.

The information on these pages relates to the following areas of performance:

- Employability
- Business Assists
- Core skills
- Participation measure

You can find more information on the economic development performance of all Scottish councils in the Scottish Local Authority Economic Development (SLAED) Indicators Framework Report which is available here: www.slaed.org.uk/slaed-indicators-framework-report.html

You can view the NOMIS labour market profile for Inverclyde here: www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157422/report.aspx

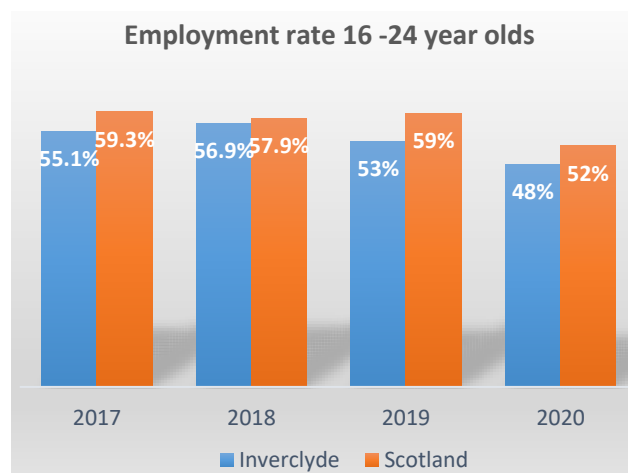
The Annual Population Survey provides information on employment and inactivity levels for Scotland and local authorities: [Scotland's Labour Market: People, Places and Regions - Statistics from the Annual Population Survey 2020/21 - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot)

Employability

Employment Rate 16-24 year olds

Data for the period October 2019 - September 2020 shows that the employment rate for 16 to 24 year olds in Inverclyde is lower than that of Scotland, 48% compared to 52%.

Covid-19 has created an economic and employment crisis in Scotland. The impact on the economy and the labour market has been varied to date with signs that young people are bearing the brunt of job losses.



Local Economy

Employability clients who gain a partial / full qualification

The attainment of accredited qualifications is one way for unemployed or under-employed clients to improve their employment prospects.

In 2020/21 there was a decrease of 172 in the number of employability clients in Inverclyde gaining a qualification.

Whilst performance was below target, COVID restrictions regarding face to face learning had a significant impact on the availability and the timescale of clients being able to undertake and complete formal qualifications.

Clients continue to be supported during 2021/22 and beyond where necessary and it will be when restrictions are fully lifted that we expect a return to previous performance levels.

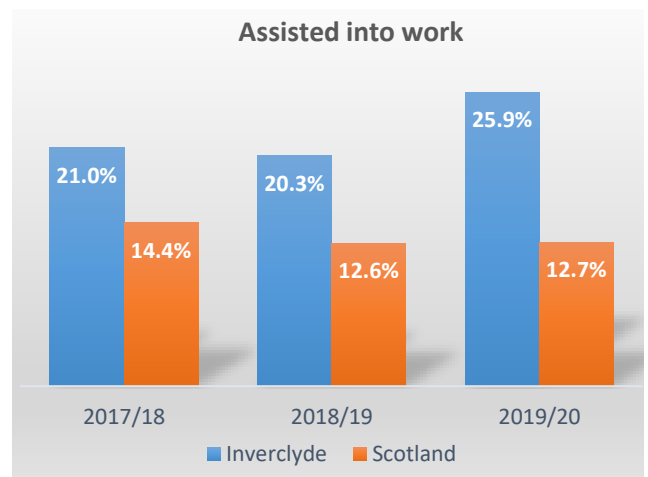
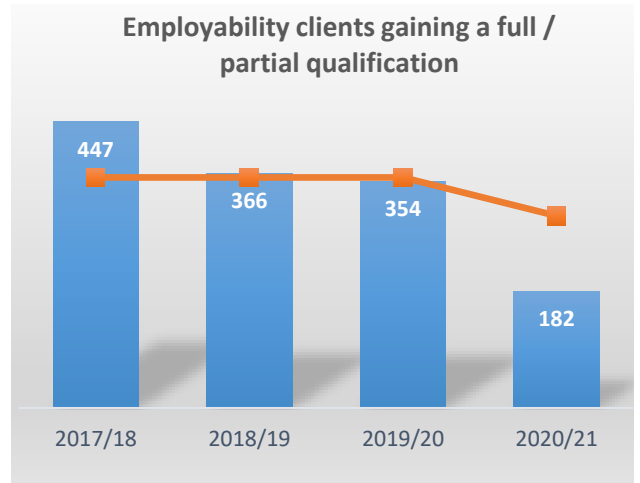
Assisted into work

This performance indicator is also reported nationally through the local government benchmarking framework (LGBF) and is a measure of the total number of registered unemployed people in a year, having received support from a council funded / operated employability programme, that go on to access employment.

In 2019/20, Inverclyde Council assisted nearly 26% of unemployed people into work. This means that 25.9% of all unemployed people moved into a job with the support of the Trust.

Performance is well above the Scottish average.

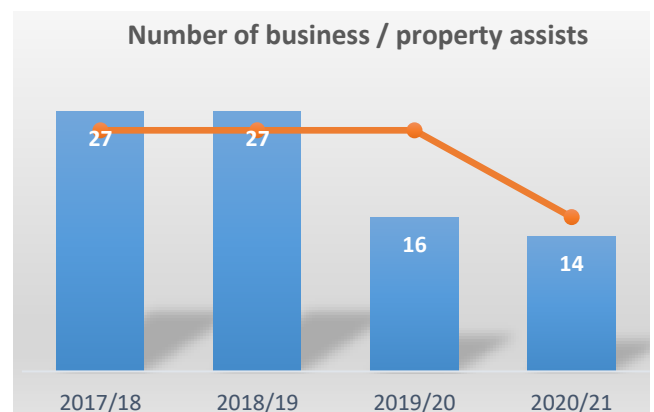
This is a priority improvement area for Inverclyde Council. It should be noted that Inverclyde has a less well developed business base and thereby fewer employment opportunities than many other areas which makes the positive comparative impact that has been achieved significant. 2020/21 data is due to be published in February 2022



Business / Property Assists

Small businesses help to foster local economies, create local jobs and are a valuable asset to the local community.

The Small Business Property Grant Scheme which supports local SME's with up to 50% of the cost of permanent physical improvements to business premises was not negatively impacted by the pandemic.



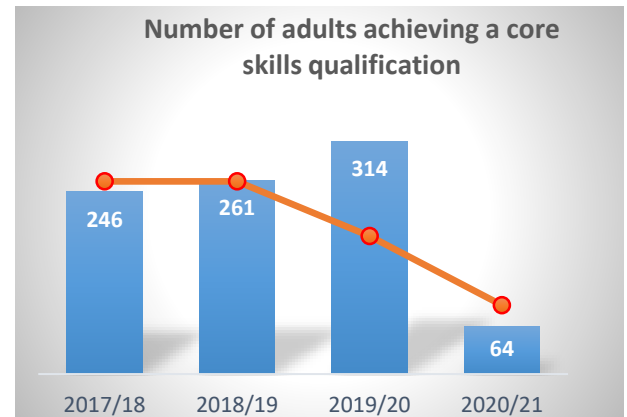
Local Economy

Due to the high demand for funding from the scheme during this period several interventions, which could have been supported during period 2020/21 if the funding were available, have now been offered grant support from financial year 2021/22. These projects and other applications received since 1st April have resulted in the grant budget, £45,760, being all but fully committed for the financial year.

Core Skills

Core skills are the skills considered to be essential if an individual is to meet their personal needs and the needs of society. These skills are important because they help learners to be effective in almost everything that they do helps to improve career prospects.

The number of adults achieving a core skills qualification in 2020/21 was greatly reduced reflecting that face to face learning was suspended for much of the year. The target was also reduced to 93 in anticipation of reduced service, however at the start of the year the impact of the pandemic could not be fully predicted.



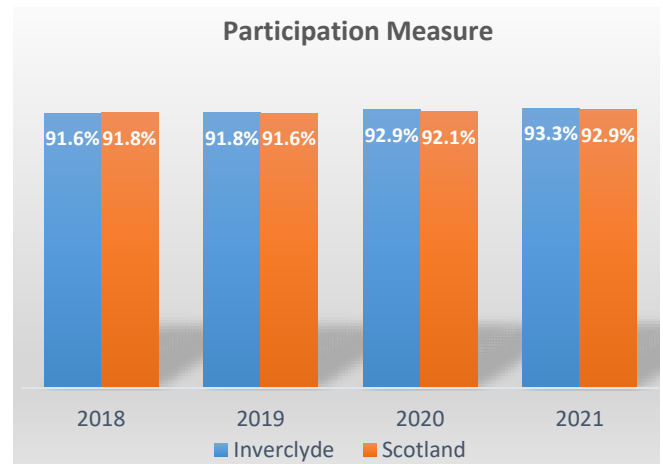
Participation Measure

Annual Participation measure for 16-19 year olds

The indicator is a measure of the number of 16-19 year olds in Inverclyde who are participating in education, training or employment. The aim is to increase the participation rate to ensure positive outcomes for our young people.

The Annual Participation Measure takes account of the status of an individual over the course of the year, rather than focusing on a single day.

In 2021, Inverclyde's participation figure improved further to 93.3%, placing performance above the Scottish average once again.



The percentage of 16-19 year olds in Inverclyde who were not participating in 2021 was 3.8% compared to 3.2% in Scotland. 2.9% of Inverclyde pupils in 2021 had an unconfirmed status compared to 4.6% in Scotland.