

Economic and Sustainable Development

These pages contain a range of performance information relating to sustainable development which will allow you to assess how we are performing in this area.

The performance information that is provided here comes from our service key performance indicators (KPIs) and the Local Government Benchmarking Framework.

You can view more information on the LGBF indicators on the Improvement Service website: <http://www.improvementservice.org.uk/benchmarking/>

The fundamental principle of sustainable development is embedded in the Council's Local Development Plan. Please follow this link to find out more [Inverclyde Local Development Plan](#)

You can find out more about what Inverclyde Council is doing to tackle climate change on the Council's website: [Inverclyde Council Tackling Climate Change](#).

You can find out more about the annual surveys of land available for housing, industry and business and land which is vacant or derelict on the Council's website: [Inverclyde Council Land Surveys](#). This information is updated in December each year.

You can also view our Planning Performance Framework here [Planning Performance Framework](#)

Performance Overview 2017/18

The 'area-wide' emissions for Inverclyde decreased by 0.3 CO₂ tonnes per capita between 2015 and 2016.

As at 31 March 2018, there was 155.27ha (107 sites) of vacant and derelict land in Inverclyde. Of the land area, 46.4% was vacant land, 0.36% vacant land and buildings and 53.24% derelict.

LGBF data for 2017/18 shows that satisfaction levels with parks and open spaces are slightly higher in Inverclyde than the national average and that our recycling performance continues to be better than the national average.

The rate of business gateway start-ups per 10,000 population is lower than the Scottish average. The percentage of people earning less than the living was also higher in Inverclyde than in Scotland.

The proportion of properties receiving superfast broadband in Inverclyde is higher in Inverclyde than the Scottish average.

85% of total land allocated for employment purposes in Inverclyde is immediately available employment land, compared to almost 41% in Scotland.

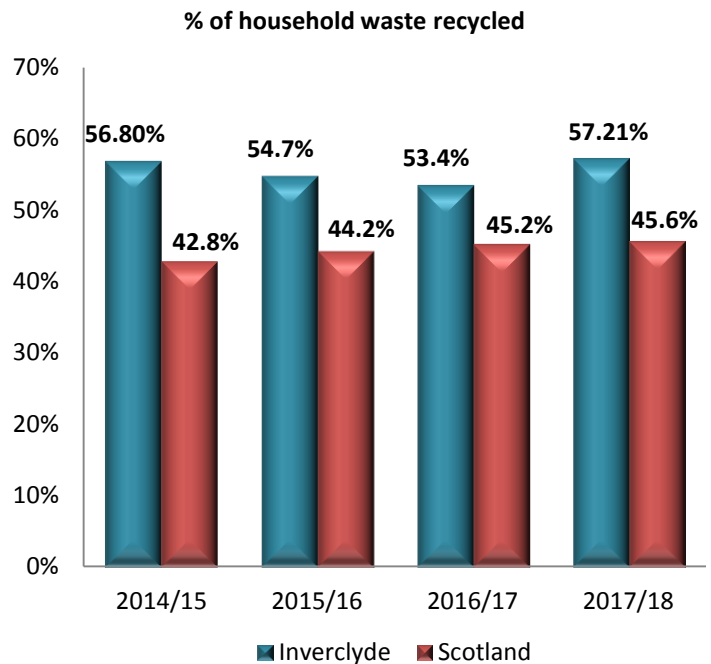
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Percentage of Household Waste Recycled (LGBF & KPI)

This indicator measures percentage of household waste that is recycled in Inverclyde. The recycling service is reliant on appropriate collection and treatment infrastructure. Levels of recycling are directly linked to investment in service delivery and new services are planned which we hope will further improve our recycling performance. These are detailed in our Waste Strategy.

In 2017/18 Inverclyde Council's recycling performance improved to 57.2% and was significantly higher than the Scottish average. Our current recycling performance is above our target of 50%. We had the 5th highest recycling rate in Scotland in 2017/18.

Quarterly performance of recycling is reported to our Environment & Regeneration Committee.

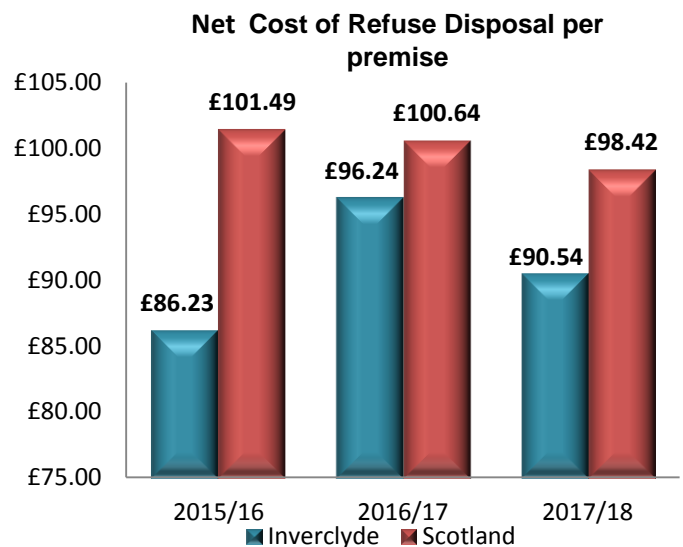


Net Refuse Disposal Costs (LGBF)

This indicator measures the net cost of refuse disposal per premise.

Refuse disposal costs decreased between 2016/17 and 2017/18.

In 2017/18 Inverclyde Council had the 12th lowest costs for refuse disposal in Scotland.



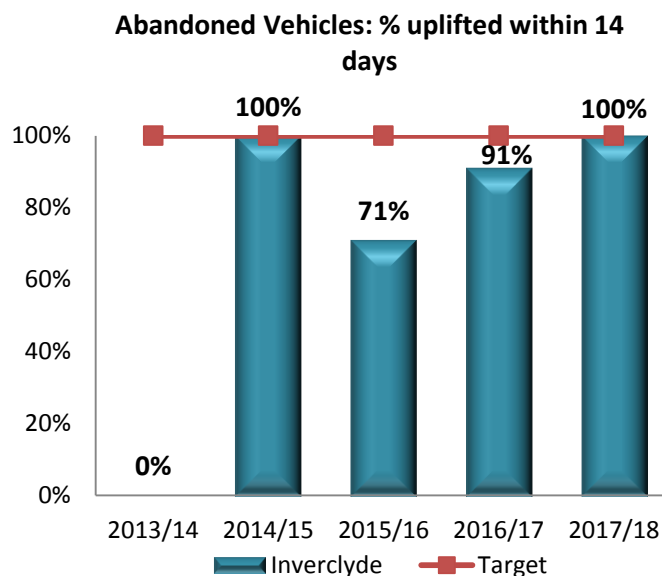
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Abandoned Vehicles (KPI)

This indicator is a measure of the percentage of vehicles uplifted within 14 days.

There can be significant fluctuations in the performance levels of this indicator due to the small numbers involved.

During 2017/18, there were 16 vehicles abandoned in Inverclyde, all of which were uplifted within the target of 14 days.

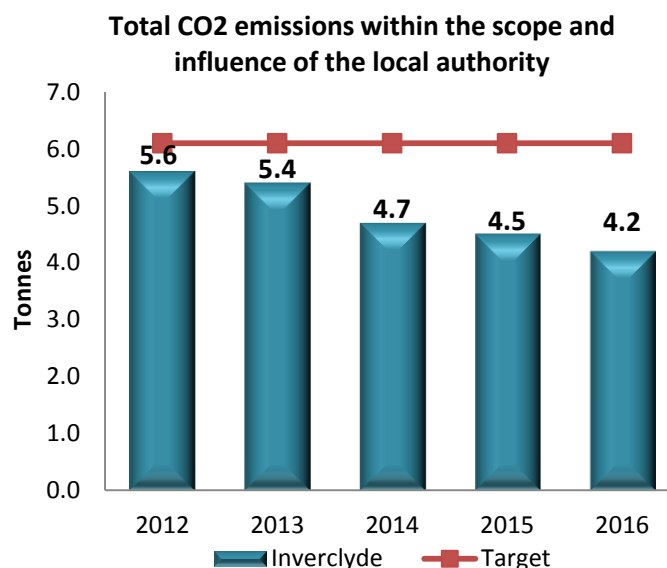


Total CO₂ emissions within the scope and influence of the local authority (per capita) (KPI)

This indicator calculates emissions from 11 areas including the use of electricity and gas by businesses in Inverclyde, together with road transport and domestic energy consumption.

This indicator calculates emissions from the use of gas, electricity and other fuels by the industrial and commercial, agricultural and domestic sectors along with emissions from the transport sector.


Inverclyde's 'area-wide' emissions decreased by 0.3 CO₂ tonnes per capita between 2015 and 2016 (the 2016 figure is the most recent available). This is explained by large decreases in emissions from the industrial and commercial sector and the domestic sector; in particular, these sectors showed large reductions in emissions from electricity use. During the same period, emissions increased from gas consumption in the domestic sector and in the transport sector.



CO ₂ emissions within the scope of influence of the local authority, per capita, in CO ₂ tonnes				
Year	Inverclyde total	Scotland total	Difference	Inverclyde population estimate used in calculation
2011	5.4	6.7	-1.3	81,200
2012	5.6	6.9	-1.3	80,700
2013	5.4	6.6	-1.2	80,300
2014	4.7	5.7	-1.0	79,900

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2015	4.5	5.5	-1.0	79,500
2016	4.2	5.2	-1.0	79,200

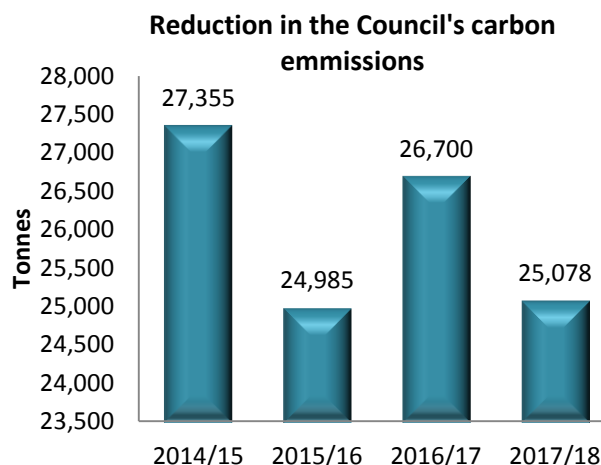
To find out more about 'area-wide' emissions, visit:  [UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics: 2005/15.](#)

Reduction in the Council's Carbon Emissions (KPI)

This measure comprises data from energy use in buildings, street lighting, fleet transport, business travel, together with water and waste.

The conversion factors used in the calculations are based on the latest guidance from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC).

Between 2016/17 and 2017/18, the Council's carbon emissions decreased by 1,622 CO₂ tonnes or 6%.



All the Council's sources of carbon, with the exception of waste and business travel, showed a reduction in emissions:

	% change between 2016/17 and 2017/18
Energy use in buildings	- 8.5%
Street lighting	- 33.3%
Fleet transport	- 1.64%
Business travel	- 19.3%
Water	+ 2.6%
Waste	- 0.62%

For the third consecutive year, there was a significant reduction in carbon emissions from street lighting in Inverclyde. Emissions from this source reduced by a third; this was achieved as a result of a combination of replacing existing lamps with much more efficient LED (light-emitting diode) ones and more flexibility in design to meet the required specification. There was also a significant reduction in emissions from business travel.

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Vacant and Derelict Land

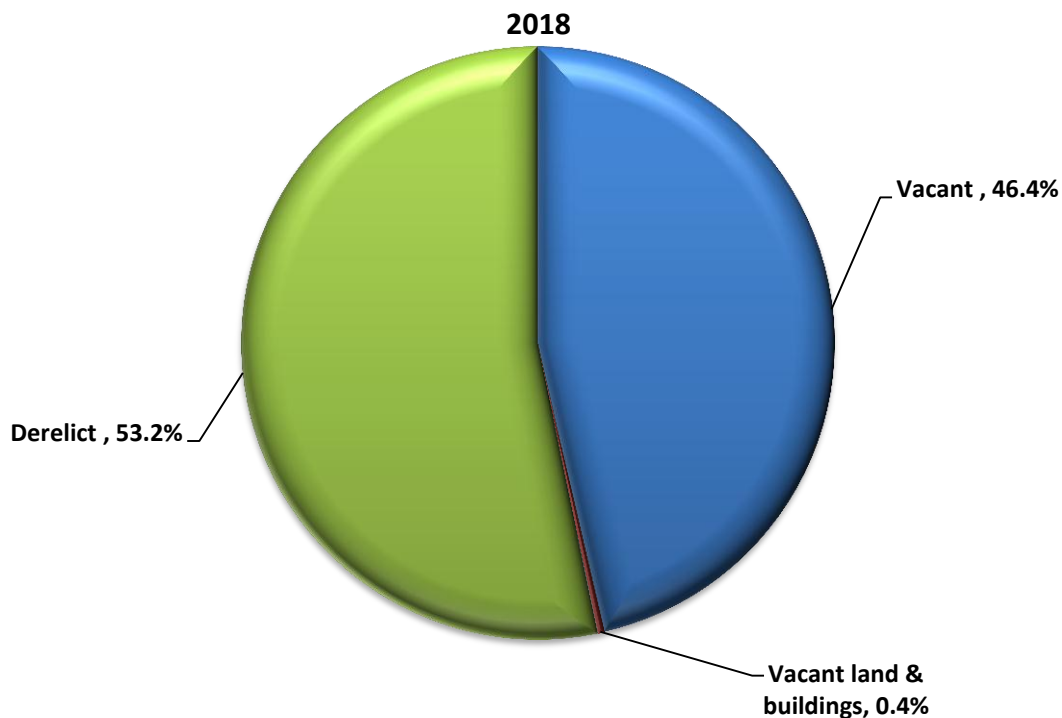
There was 155.27ha (107 sites) of vacant and derelict land in Inverclyde at 31 March 2018. Of the land area, 46.4% was vacant land, 0.36% vacant land and buildings and 53.24% derelict.

Nine new sites, totalling 10.71ha were added to VDL register in 2018.

Nine sites, totalling 7.88ha were taken up for a new use. Of the total take up, 32.23% was for housing, 37.94% for business and industrial use, 14.84% for passive open space, 7.36% for education, 4.56% for transport and 3.04% for retailing.

Overall, while the number of vacant and derelict sites increased by 0.94%, the land area decreased by 0.04%.

The composition of the land area is as shown in the graph below:



You can find full details of the vacant and derelict land supply in Inverclyde on the Council's webpage by clicking on the following link: [Inverclyde Council Land Surveys](#)

The Council's website also contains full reports on Housing Land Survey and Industry and Business Land Survey.

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Percentage of unemployed people assisted into work from Council operated / funded employability programmes (LGBF)

This indicator is part of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework 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.

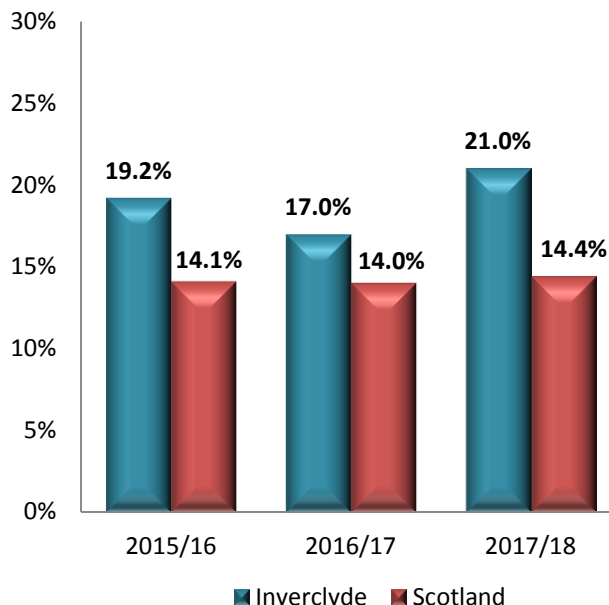
In 2017/18, Inverclyde Council assisted 21% of unemployed people into work. This means that 21% of all unemployed people moved into a job with the support of the Trust. This was the 8th highest percentage in Scotland which places us in the top quartile of all local authorities.

This is a priority improvement area for Inverclyde Council. It should be noted that Inverclyde starts from a lower base with a less well developed business base and thereby fewer employment opportunities than many other areas. This makes the positive comparative impact that has been achieved significant.

Key to securing continuous improvement is the collective strength of the community planning partners involved in supporting people to find employment. Additionally, the range of programmes which underpin this indicator are delivered through the third sector potentially resulting in a more streamlined delivery method through engaging with third sector organisations. The majority of Inverclyde jobs created via Council operated/funded employability programmes are in the construction sector and arise from community benefits activity.

Benchmarking takes place against the national indicators and through the work of the Strategic Employability Group.

% unemployed assisted into work

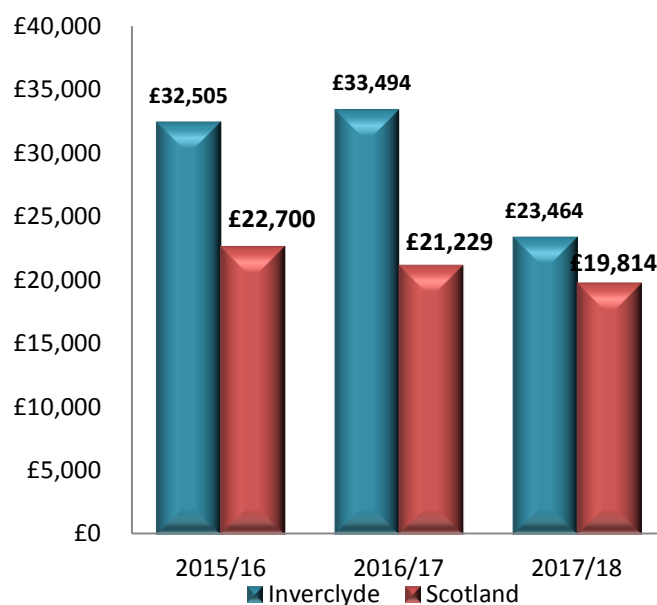


Cost of parks and open spaces per 1,000 population (LGBF)

This performance indicator is part of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF). In 2017/18 our costs for parks and open spaces were higher than the Scottish national figure, although the gap between costs in Inverclyde and Scotland has reduced significantly. There was also a significant drop in costs in Inverclyde in 2017/18, despite this our costs were the tenth highest in Scotland.

Parks and open spaces are a priority improvement area for the Council, particularly the provision of refurbished play areas. Inverclyde also has declining population whilst the parks establishment remains static, which helps explain increasing costs. A significant percentage of open spaces maintenance is now with Registered Social Landlords (RSL) and since January 2013, Inverclyde Council no longer carries out maintenance on behalf of the largest RSL.

Cost of parks and open spaces per 1,000 population



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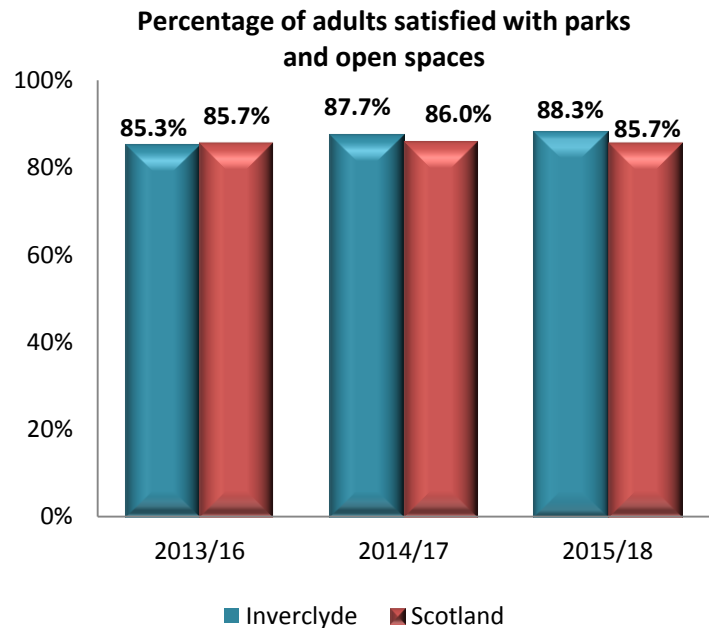
Percentage of adults satisfied with parks and open spaces (LGBF)

The data is sourced from the Scottish Household Survey.

In 2015/18, Inverclyde ranked 10th out of 32 Councils in terms of satisfaction with parks and open spaces. Satisfaction levels are very slightly lower than the Scottish national figure.

Inverclyde has a declining population whilst the parks establishment remains static, which helps account for increasing costs.

It has been acknowledged by SOLACE that this data has its limitations, particularly for smaller Councils.



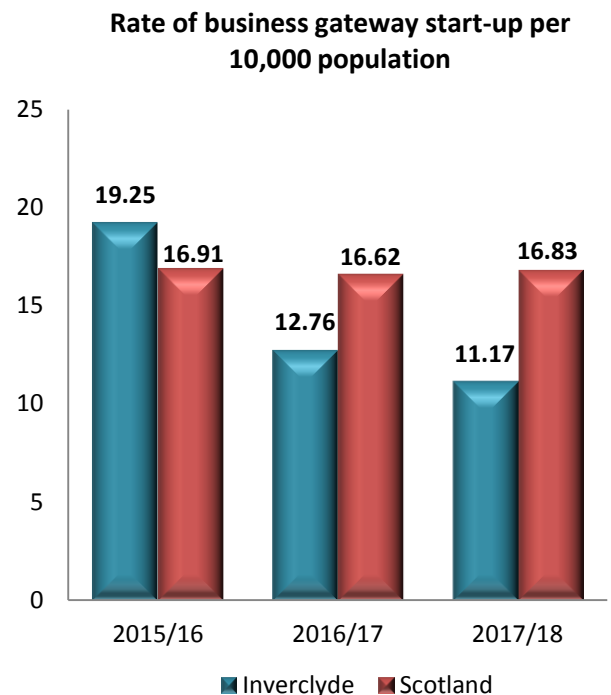
Number of business gateway start-ups per 10,000 population (LGBF)

This indicator is part of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework and provides the rate of business gateway start-ups per 10,000 population.

In 2017/18, the rate of business gateway start-ups per 10,000 population in Inverclyde was 11.17 compared to 16.83 in Scotland.

The Council aims to improve business creation and the growth of small businesses in the area. The provision of good quality support and assistance remains crucial to increasing new business formation and sustainable growth enterprises.

Inverclyde ranked in 29th position out of 32 local authorities for this measure.



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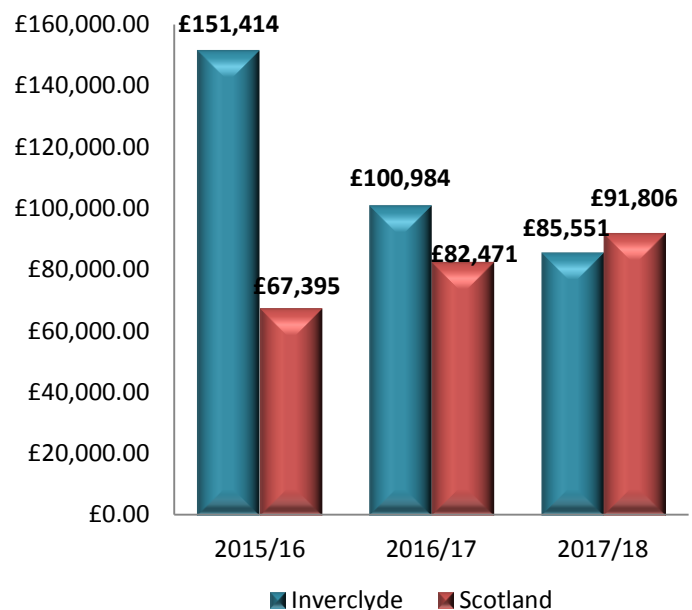
Cost of Economic Development and Tourism (LGBF)

This indicator is part of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework and is a measure of each Council's expenditure on the delivery of their economic development service, both in terms of capital projects and revenue costs. This indicator was introduced to the LGBF in 2017/18.

In 2017/18, the cost of economic development and tourism in Inverclyde fell from £100,984 to £85,551. Costs are now 44% lower than in 2015/16 and are also lower than the Scottish average. Inverclyde ranked in 21st position in Scotland in 2017/18.

In 2017/18 Inverclyde had the twelfth highest costs in Scotland, however costs varied significantly across the country ranging from £24,338 to £551,316.

Cost of Economic Development and Tourism



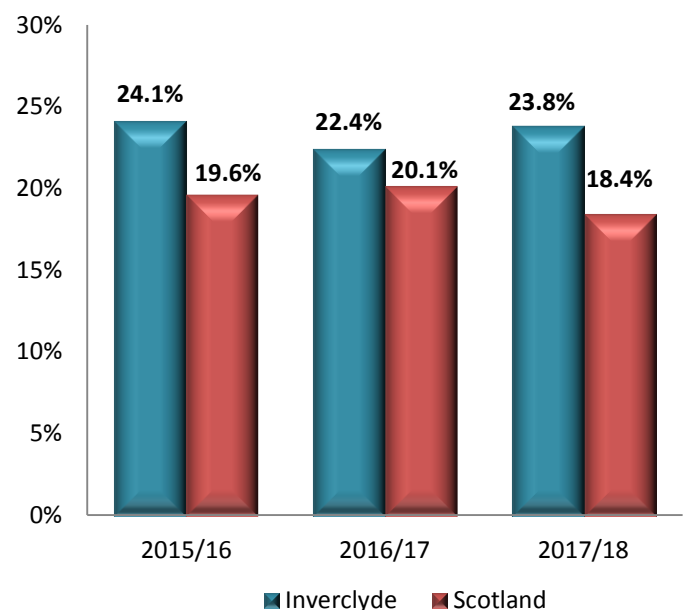
Proportion of people earning less than the living wage (LGBF)

This indicator is part of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework and is a measure of the percentage of employees (18+) that are earning less than the living wage. The indicator was introduced to the LGBF in 2017/18.

In 2017/18, 23.8% of employees in Inverclyde earned less than the minimum wage. This was higher than the Scottish average.

Inverclyde had the 10th highest proportion of people earning less than the living wage of all 32 local authorities in Scotland.

Proportion of people earning less than the living wage



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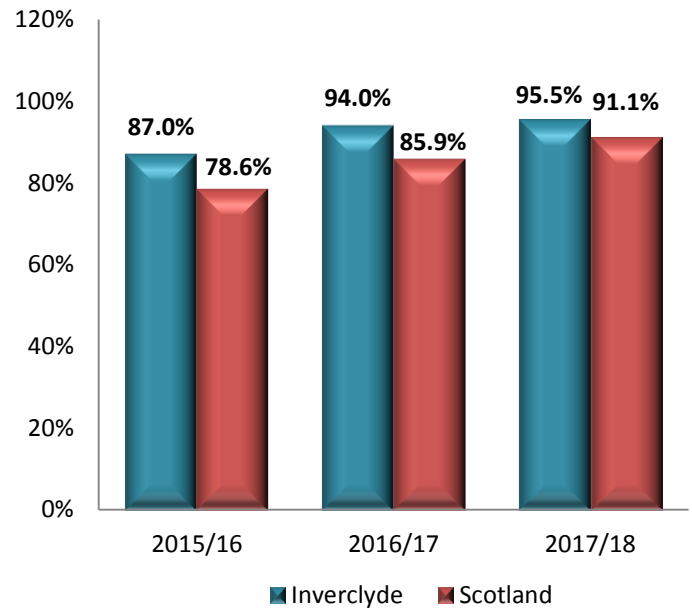
Proportion of properties receiving super-fast broadband (LGBF)

This indicator is part of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework and was introduced in 2017/18.

Access to good digital infrastructure is a key driver of economic competitiveness and productivity. Councils have a role alongside telecom companies in facilitation and enabling the development of effective digital infrastructure and this indicator measures the impact of this work.

In 2017/18, it was estimated that 95.5% of properties in Inverclyde were receiving super-fast broadband, compared to an average of 91.1% in Scotland. This was the 7th highest level in Scotland and places us in the top quartile of all Scottish local authorities for this measure.

Proportion of properties receiving superfast broadband

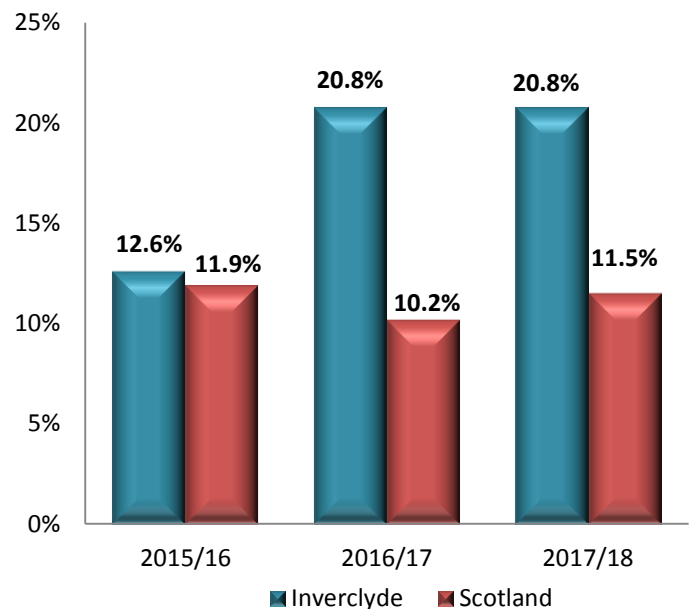


Town Centre Vacancy Rates (LGBF)

This indicator is part of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework and was introduced in 2017/18. This is a measure of the level of vacant units within town centres.

Inverclyde has a higher town centre vacancy rate than the Scottish average, 20.8% compared to 11.5%. Inverclyde had the 7th highest vacancy rate in Scotland in 2017/18.

Town Centre Vacancy Rates



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Immediately available employment land as a % of total land allocated for employment purposes in the local development plan (LGBF)

This indicator is part of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework and was introduced in 2017/18.

The availability of land for development is a significant factor that affects local economic growth and it falls within Councils' local development planning powers to influence this. Immediately available land is land which is serviced and marketed as opposed to simply being designated for employment use.

85% of total land allocated for employment purposes in Inverclyde is immediately available employment land, compared to almost 41% in Scotland. Inverclyde had the third highest percentage of immediately available employment land in Scotland in 2017/18, which places Inverclyde in the top performing quartile of all authorities in Scotland.

