

Benfleet

2011 annual business confidence report



headlines

- 2011 was a record year for company registrations in Benfleet when compared to any year in history.
- December 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Benfleet when compared to any previous December.

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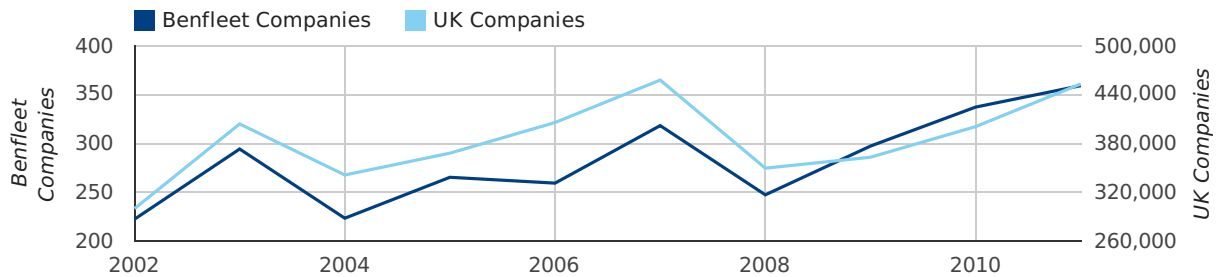
Annual Data (2011)

2011 was a record year for company registrations in Benfleet when compared to any year in history.

A total of 359 companies were formed in Benfleet in 2011. This total is 6.5% higher than in 2010 and compares equally to the UK figure of a 13.1% growth compared to 400,358 the previous year.

YEAR	BENFLEET	UK
2011	359	452,870
2010	337	400,358
2009	297	362,675
2008	247	349,203
2007	318	457,649
RECORD YEAR	2011 (359)	2007 (457,649)

new companies by year



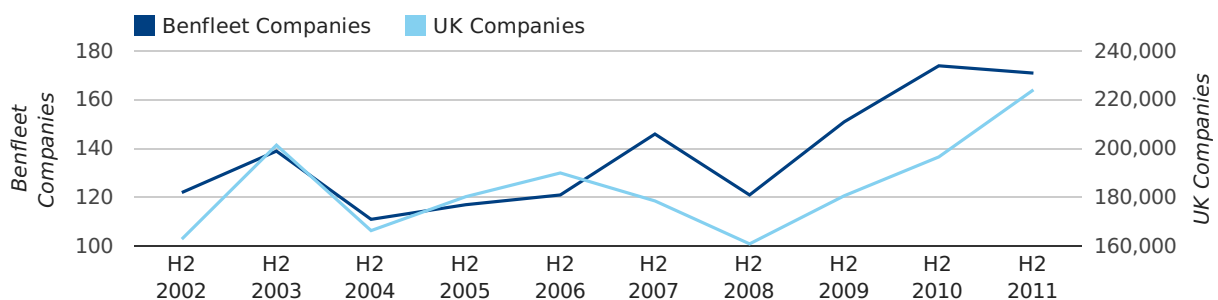
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 a total of 171 companies were formed in Benfleet. This figure is 1.7% lower than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide figure of 14.0%.

The highest total for a second half year in Benfleet occurred in 2010 when a total of 174 were formed.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	BENFLEET	UK
2011	171	224,135
2010	174	196,609
% CHANGE	-1.7%	14.0%
RECORD YEAR	2010 (174)	2011 (224,135)

new companies by half year



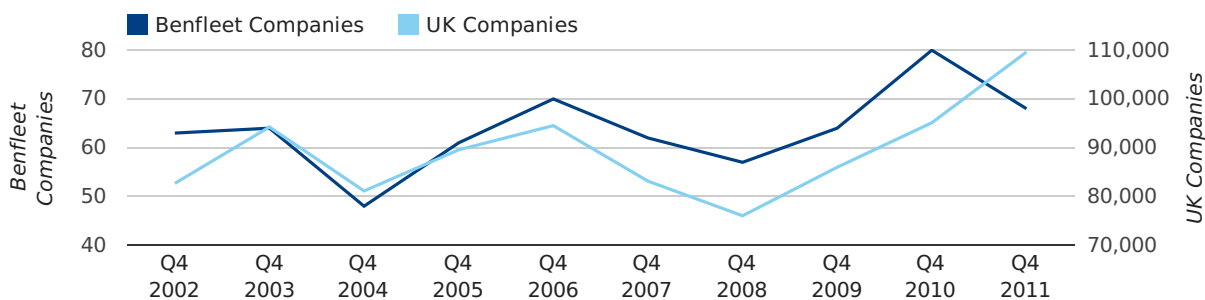
Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

A total of 68 companies were registered in Benfleet during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is a decrease of 15.0% versus the same period last year (Q4 2010). This figure compares badly to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 15.3% against the same period last year.

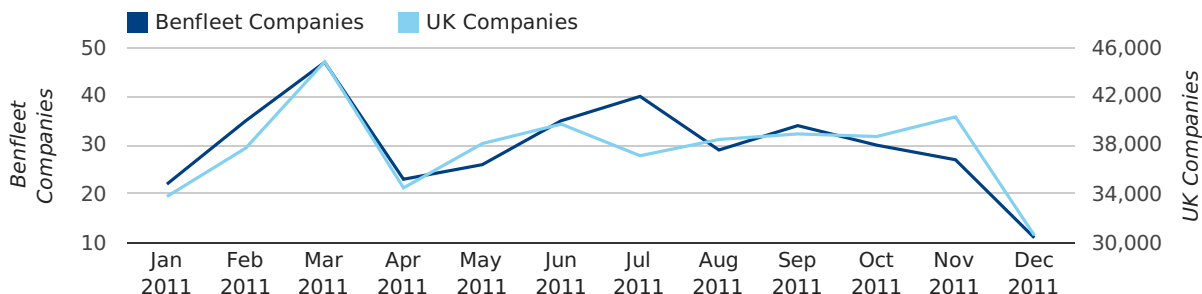
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	BENFLEET	UK
2011	68	109,623
2010	80	95,117
% CHANGE	-15.0%	15.3%
RECORD YEAR	2010 (80)	2011 (109,623)

new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

new companies by month



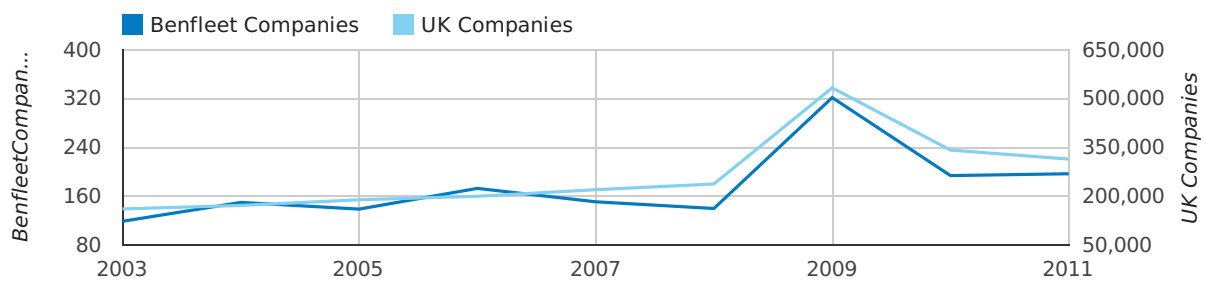
	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	30	27	11
NEW COMPANIES IN 2010	33	24	23
% CHANGE	-9.1%	12.5%	-52.2%
RECORD YEAR	2010 (33)	2005 (28)	2010 (23)

Annual Data (2011)

A total of 197 companies were dissolved in Benfleet in 2011. This total is 1.5% higher than in 2010 and compares favourably to the UK figure of 8.1% decrease compared to the previous year.

YEAR	BENFLEET	UK
2011	197	314,523
2010	194	342,232
2009	322	533,773
2008	140	237,901
2007	151	220,295
RECORD YEAR	2009 (322)	2009 (533,773)

dissolved companies by year



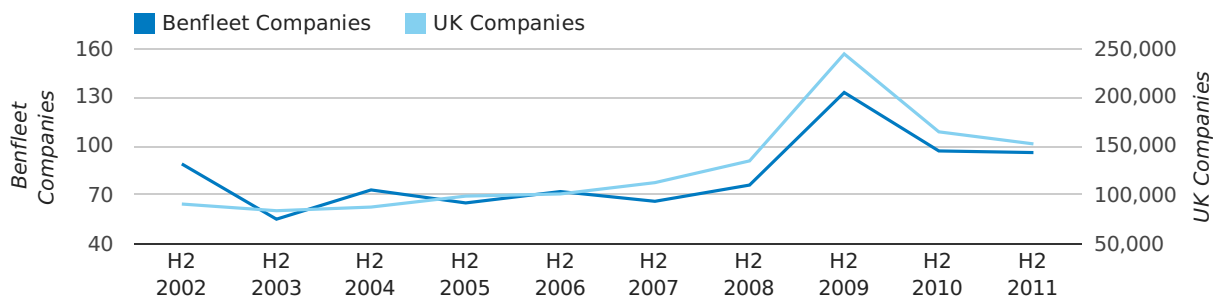
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 a total of 96 companies were dissolved in Benfleet. This figure is 1.0% lower than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide change of -7.5%.

The highest total for a second half year in Benfleet occurred in 2009 when a total of 133 were closed.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	BENFLEET	UK
2011	96	152,213
2010	97	164,601
% CHANGE	-1.0%	-7.5%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (133)	2009 (244,537)

dissolved companies by half year



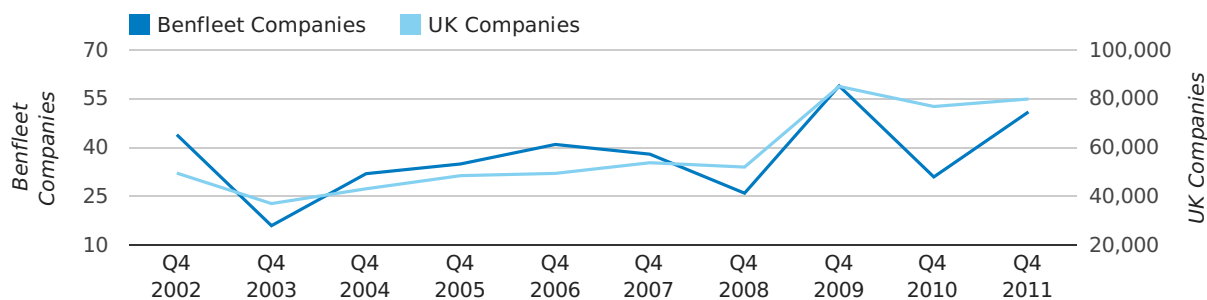
Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

A total of 51 companies were dissolved in Benfleet during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is an increase of 64.5% versus the same period last year (Q4 2010). This figure compares poorly to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 4.0% against the same period last year.

FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	BENFLEET	UK
2011	51	79,983
2010	31	76,896
% CHANGE	64.5%	4.0%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (59)	2009 (85,136)

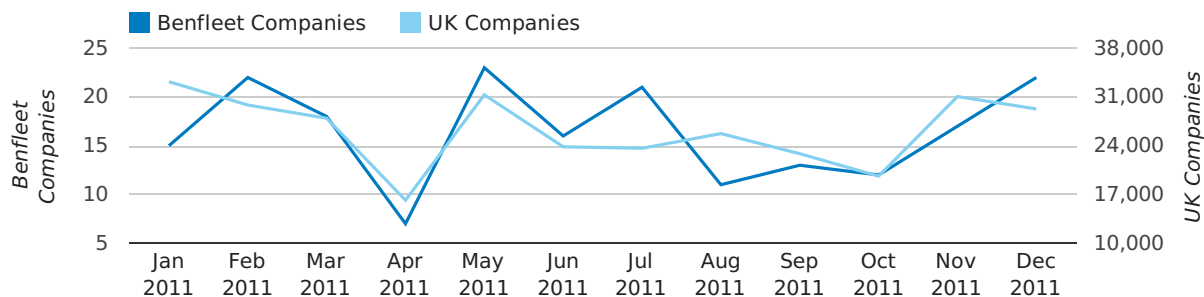
dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

December 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Benfleet when compared to any previous December.

dissolved companies by month



	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	12	17	22
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2010	14	10	7
% CHANGE	-14.3%	70.0%	214%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (23)	2006 (20)	2011 (22)

Annual Data (2011)

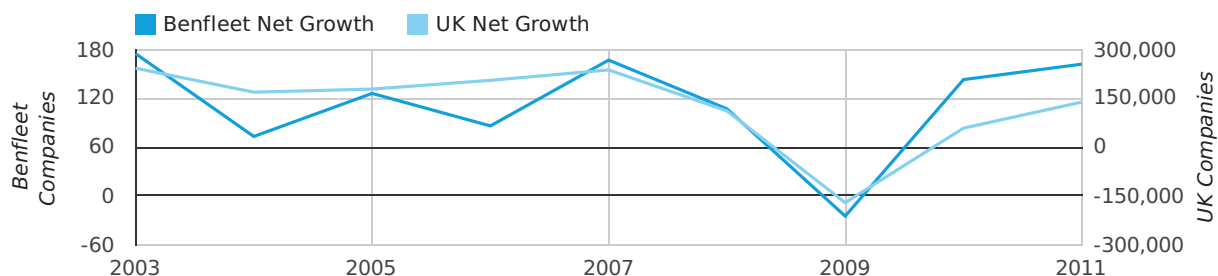
A total of 162 companies were added to the company register for Benfleet in 2011. This number represents growth of 48.1% which compares favourably to the UK figure of 34.6%.

This number is 19 companies higher than the previous year.

The highest net company growth figure ever seen in one year came in 2003 when the Benfleet company register grew by 175 companies.

YEAR	BENFLEET	UK
2011	162	138,347
2010	143	58,126
2009	-25	-171,098
2008	107	111,302
2007	167	237,354
RECORD YEAR	2003 (175)	2003 (242,543)

net growth by year

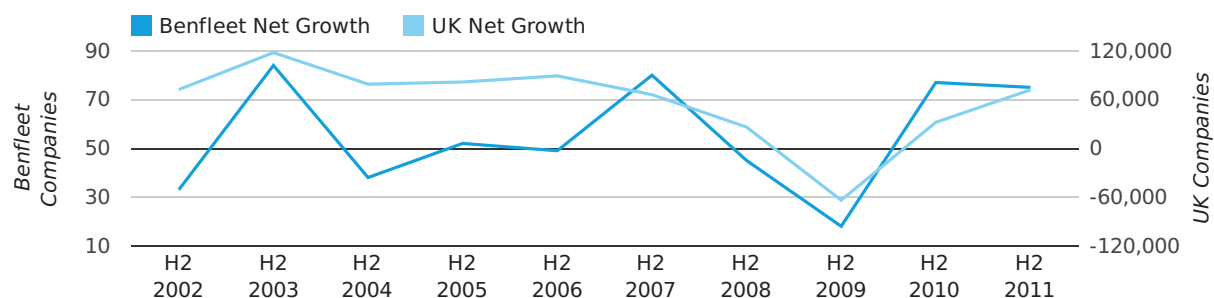


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 the company register for Benfleet increased by 75 companies. This figure is 2.6% lower than last year, which compares badly to a UK increase of 124.7%.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	BENFLEET	UK
2011	75	71,922
2010	77	32,008
% CHANGE	-2.6%	124.7%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (84)	2003 (117,772)

net growth by half year



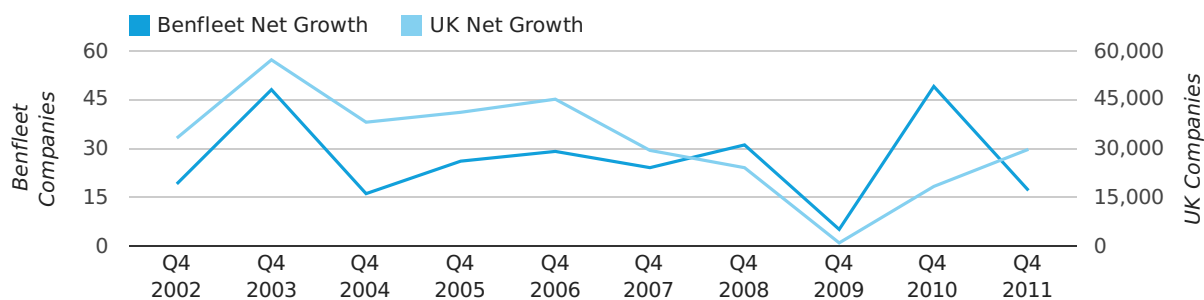
Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

Net company growth for Benfleet during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011) was 17 companies.

This represents a decrease of 65.3% on the same period last year.

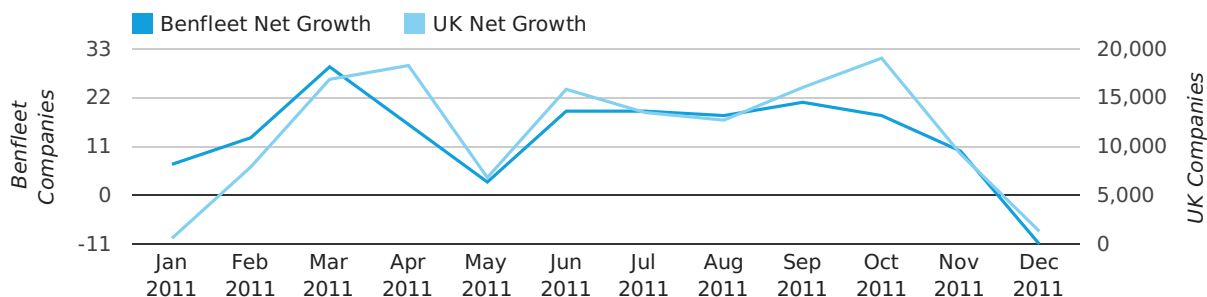
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	BENFLEET	UK
2011	17	29,640
2010	49	18,221
% CHANGE	-65.3%	62.7%
RECORD YEAR	2010 (49)	2003 (57,175)

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

net growth by month



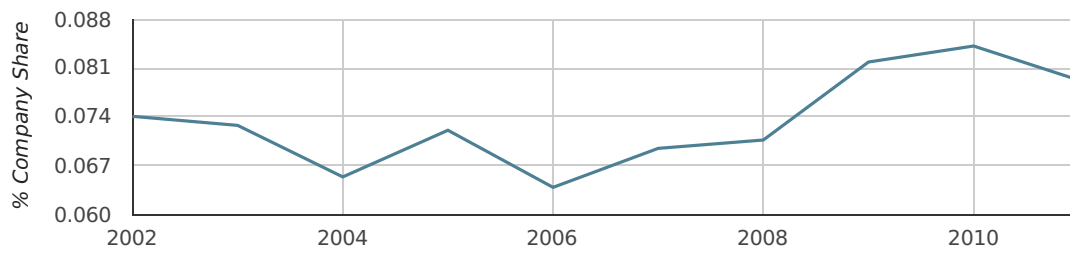
	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
NET GROWTH IN 2011	18	10	-11
NET GROWTH IN 2010	19	14	16
% CHANGE	-5.3%	-28.6%	-168.8%
RECORD YEAR	2010 (19)	2003 (17)	2010 (16)

Annual Data (2011)

In 2011 Benfleet formed 0.1% of all UK companies. This is no change on 2010 when Benfleet was responsible for 0.1% of all UK companies.

YEAR	BENFLEET
2011	0.1%
2010	0.1%
2009	0.1%
2008	0.1%
2007	0.1%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1966 (0.1%)

company share by year

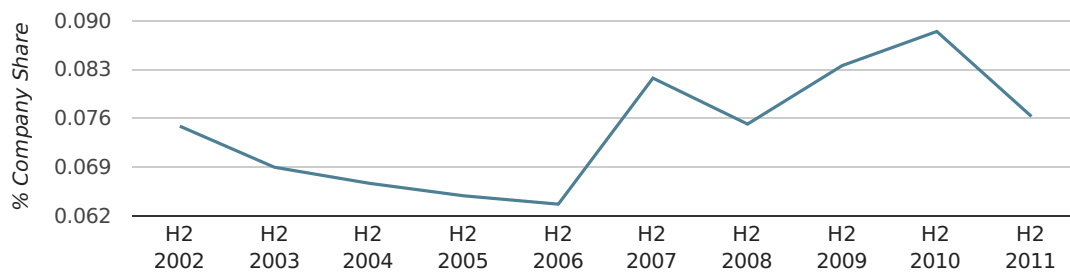


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 Benfleet formed 0.1% of all UK companies. This is the same as the 2010 figure of 0.1%.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	BENFLEET
2011	0.1%
2010	0.1%
2009	0.1%
2008	0.1%
2007	0.1%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1966 (0.2%)

company share by half year

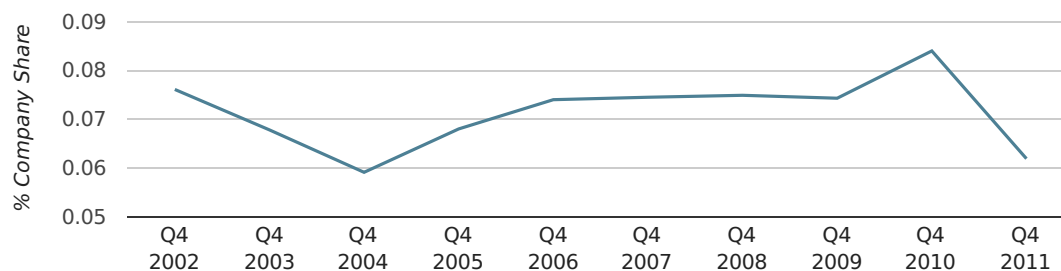


Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

In the fourth quarter of 2011, Benfleet formed 0.1% of all UK companies.

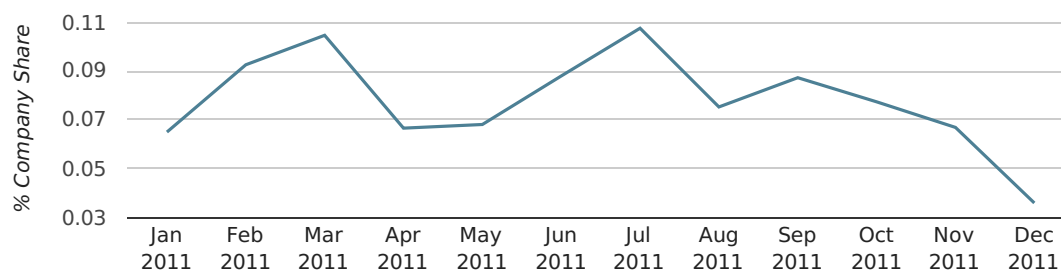
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	BENFLEET
2011	0.1%
2010	0.1%
2009	0.1%
2008	0.1%
2007	0.1%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1966 (0.2%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

company share by month



	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
% CHANGE	-21.0%	-4.1%	-57.5%
RECORD YEAR	1977 (0.2%)	1966 (0.2%)	1966 (0.5%)

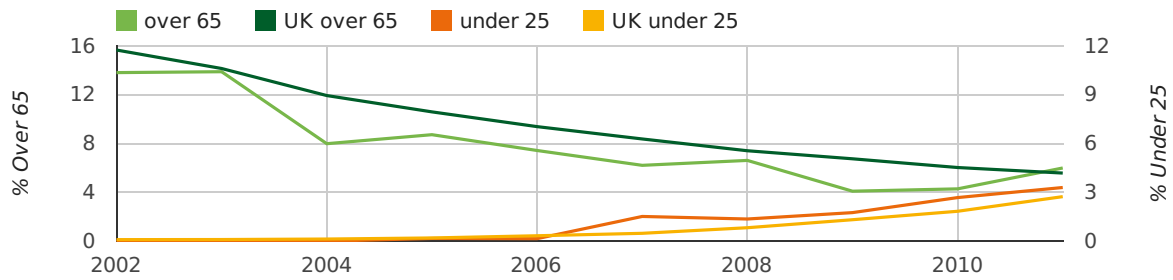
Annual Data (2011)

The average age of a director in 2011 was 45.8.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 3.3% compared to the UK figure of 3.7%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 6.0% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

director age by year



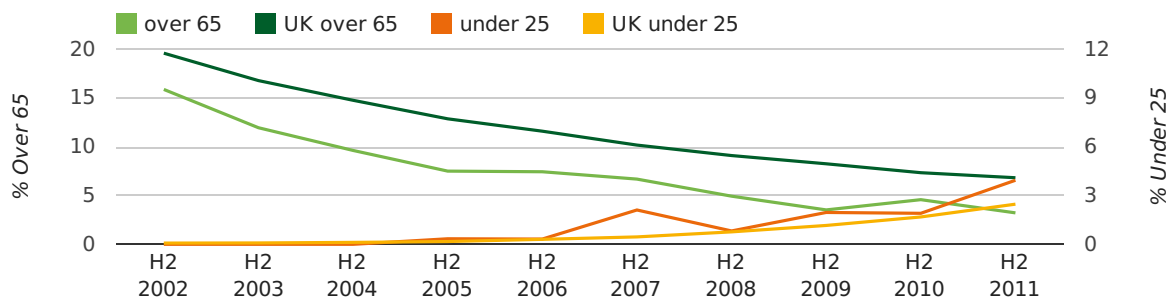
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

The average age of a director in the second half of 2011 was 44.3.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 3.9% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.2% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

director age by half year



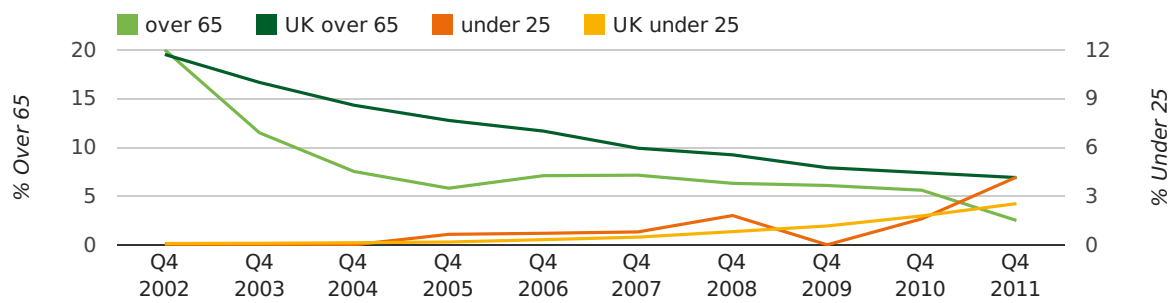
Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

The average age of a director in the fourth quarter of 2011 was 42.3.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 4.2% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 2.5% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

director age by quarter

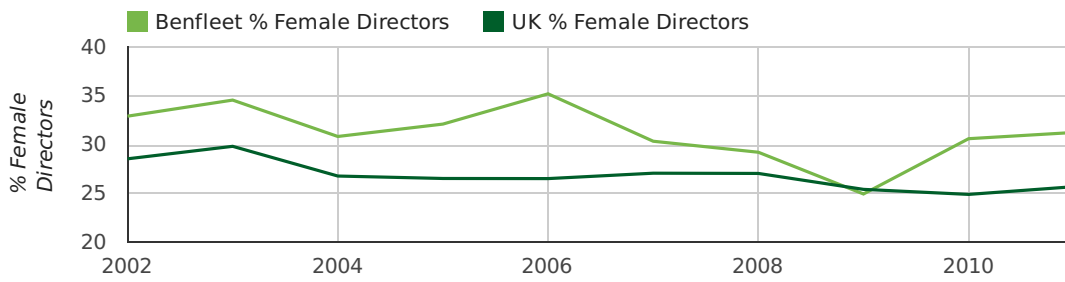


Annual Data (2011)

The record year for female directors in Benfleet was 1857 when 36.4% of all directors were female.

The percentage of female directors in Benfleet in 2011 was 32.9%. The average for the UK during this time was 28.6%

director gender by year

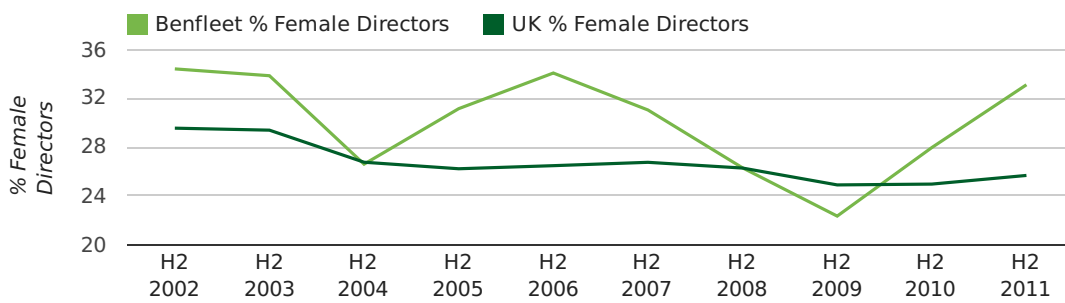


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

The record second half year for female directors in Benfleet was 1860 when 42.9% of all directors were female.

33.1% of all director appointments in Benfleet in the second half of 2011 were female. This compares to a UK average of 25.7% for the same period.

director gender by half year

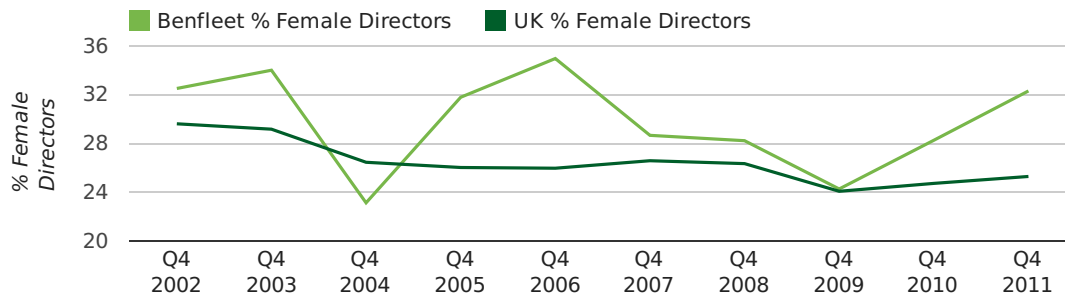


Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

The record fourth quarter for female directors in Benfleet was in 1977 when 31.1% of all directors were female.

32.3% of all director appointments in Benfleet in the fourth quarter of 2011 were female. This compares to a UK average of 25.3% for the same period.

director gender by quarter



Previous 12 months (Dec 2010-Dec 2011)

Excluding: LIMITED, LTD, &, UK, SERVICES, THE, (UK), AND, LTD., A, LLP, SOLUTIONS, COMPANY, OF.

WORD	PERCENTAGE	UK WORD	UK PERCENTAGE
PROPERTY	2.34%	CONSULTING	5.07%
MANAGEMENT	1.41%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
SCHOOL	1.41%	CONSULTANCY	3.26%
MAINTENANCE	1.25%	PROPERTY	2.37%
ELECTRICAL	1.25%	TRADING	2.07%
D	1.25%	DESIGN	1.92%
CONSTRUCTION	1.09%	ASSOCIATES	1.86%
ESSEX	1.09%	ENGINEERING	1.78%
T	0.94%	BUSINESS	1.78%
ENGINEERING	0.94%	CONSULTANTS	1.76%
C	0.78%	CONSTRUCTION	1.73%
ENTERPRISES	0.78%	MEDIA	1.71%
M	0.78%	LONDON	1.63%
BENFLEET	0.78%	J	1.51%
J	0.78%	INVESTMENTS	1.48%
ACADEMY	0.78%	GLOBAL	1.46%
DESIGN	0.78%	IT	1.41%
BUILDING	0.78%	CARE	1.39%
W	0.78%	PROPERTIES	1.29%
TRUST	0.78%	ELECTRICAL	1.29%
AUTOHIRE	0.63%	M	1.27%
HEATING	0.63%	BUILDING	1.26%
MANOR	0.63%	ENERGY	1.25%
(ESSEX)	0.63%	S	1.20%
L	0.63%	ENTERPRISES	1.20%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	108	205,525
7487 - Other business activities	69	57,052
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	29	11,768
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	24	17,765
99999 - Dormant Company	22	21,846
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	20	32,483
43390 - Other building completion and finishing	15	2,832
9999 - Dormant Company	13	20,199
7260 - Other computer related activities	12	7,667
4545 - Other building completion	11	2,369
7414 - Business & management consultancy	11	13,034
43210 - Electrical installation	11	3,175
5530 - Restaurants	8	5,013
41202 - Construction of domestic buildings	7	2,598
4521 - General construction & civil engineering	7	5,558
64999 - Financial intermediation not elsewhere classified	6	2,946
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	6	12,072
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	5	7,398
43220 - Plumbing, heat and air-conditioning installation	5	2,372
4534 - Other building installation	5	2,091