Darlington

q1 2012 business confidence report



headlines

- Q1 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Darlington when compared to any previous Q1.
- Q1 2012 was a record quarter for company registrations in Darlington when compared to any quarter in history.
- January 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Darlington when compared to any previous January.
- January 2012 saw a new record in net growth in Darlington when compared to any previous January.

contents



Q1 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Darlington when compared to any previous Q1.

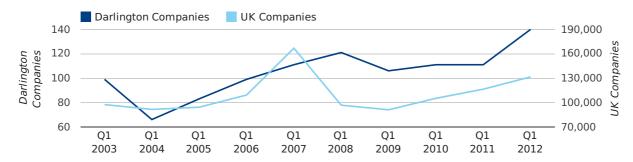
Q1 2012 was a record quarter for company registrations in Darlington when compared to any quarter in history.

A total of 140 companies were registered in Darlington during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012).

This figure is an increase of 26.1% versus the same period last year (Q1 2011). This figure compares well to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 13.0% against the same period last year.

FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	DARLINGTON	UK
2012	140	131,491
2011	111	116,391
% CHANGE	26.1%	13.0%
RECORD YEAR	2012 (140)	2007 (166,814)

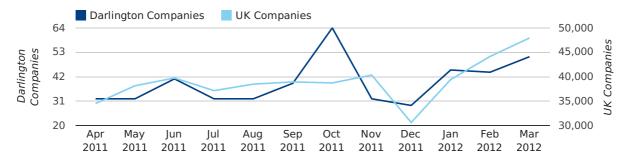
new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

January 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Darlington when compared to any previous January.

new companies by month



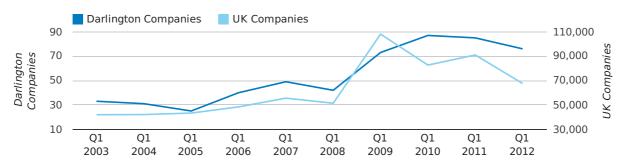
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
NEW COMPANIES IN 2012	45	44	51
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	34	28	49
% CHANGE	32.4%	57.1%	4.1%
RECORD YEAR	2012 (45)	2008 (49)	2010 (53)

A total of 76 companies were dissolved in Darlington during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012).

This figure is a decrease of 10.6% versus the same period last year (Q1 2011). This figure compares poorly to the UK as a whole, which saw a decrease of 25.7% against the same period last year.

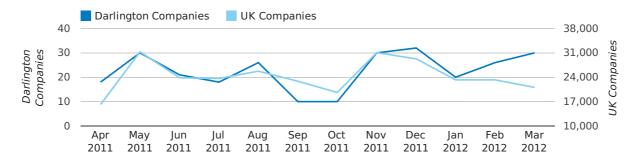
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	DARLINGTON	UK
2012	76	67,576
2011	85	90,986
% CHANGE	-10.6%	-25.7%
RECORD YEAR	2010 (87)	2009 (108,060)

dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

dissolved companies by month



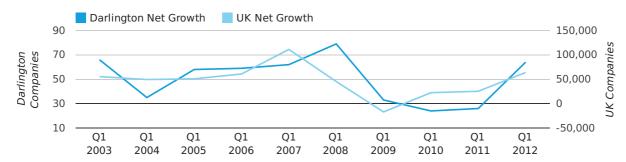
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2012	20	26	30
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	41	22	22
% CHANGE	-51.2%	18.2%	36%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (41)	2010 (38)	2010 (35)

Net company growth for Darlington during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012) was 64 companies.

This represents an increase of 146.2% on the same period last year.

FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	DARLINGTON	UK
2012	64	63,915
2011	26	25,405
% CHANGE	146.2%	151.6%
RECORD YEAR	2008 (79)	2007 (111,282)

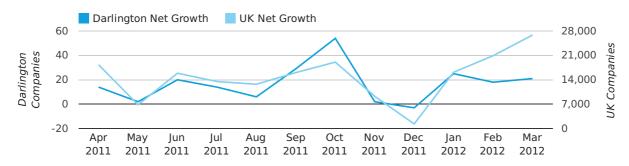
net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

January 2012 saw a new record in net growth in Darlington when compared to any previous January.

net growth by month

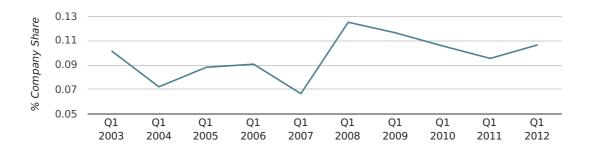


	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
NET GROWTH IN 2012	25	18	21
NET GROWTH IN 2011	-7	6	27
% CHANGE	-457.1%	200.0%	-22.2%
RECORD YEAR	2012 (25)	2008 (30)	2008 (37)

In the first quarter of 2012, Darlington formed 0.1% of all UK companies.

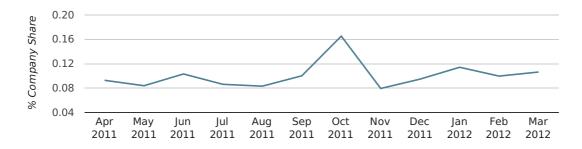
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	DARLINGTON
2012	0.1%
2011	0.1%
2010	0.1%
2009	0.1%
2008	0.1%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1979 (0.3%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

company share by month



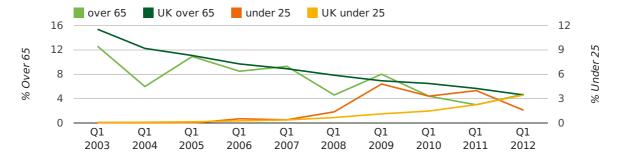
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2012	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
% CHANGE	13.5%	34.5%	-2.7%
RECORD YEAR	1979 (0.4%)	1981 (0.3%)	1975 (0.2%)

The average age of a director in the first quarter of 2012 was 46.2.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 1.6% compared to the UK figure of 4.6%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 4.7% compared to the UK figure of 3.5%.

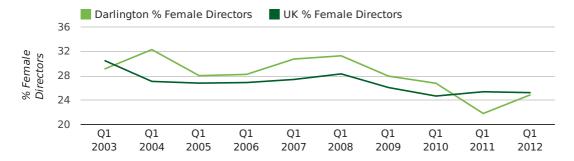
director age by quarter



The record first quarter for female directors in Darlington was in 1861 when 40.0% of all directors were female.

24.9% of all director appointments in Darlington in the first quarter of 2012 were female. This compares to a UK average of 25.3% for the same period.

director gender by quarter



Previous 12 months (Mar 2011-Mar 2012)

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

WORD	PERCENTAGE	UK WORD	UK PERCENTAGE
MAINTENANCE	2.00%	CONSULTING	5.07%
TALBOT	1.88%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
NORTH	1.30%	CONSULTANCY	3.30%
(DARLINGTON)	1.18%	PROPERTY	2.37%
DARLINGTON	1.18%	TRADING	2.07%
J	1.06%	DESIGN	1.93%
EAST	0.94%	ENGINEERING	1.86%
MANAGEMENT	0.82%	ASSOCIATES	1.84%
ACADEMY	0.82%	CONSULTANTS	1.79%
RUBIX	0.82%	BUSINESS	1.73%
COMMUNITY	0.82%	MEDIA	1.72%
FITNESS	0.71%	CONSTRUCTION	1.72%
TRAINING	0.71%	LONDON	1.66%
DESIGN	0.71%	J	1.54%
BUILDING	0.71%	INVESTMENTS	1.51%
PROPERTIES	0.71%	GLOBAL	1.50%
ENERGY	0.71%	IT	1.40%
W	0.71%	CARE	1.34%
CONSULTING	0.71%	PROPERTIES	1.31%
CONSULTANCY	0.59%	ELECTRICAL	1.27%
ASSOCIATES	0.59%	М	1.27%
CONTRACTORS	0.59%	BUILDING	1.24%
BUSINESS	0.59%	ENERGY	1.20%
S	0.47%	S	1.20%
BANNATYNE	0.47%	ENTERPRISES	1.19%

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Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	157	216,665
7487 - Other business activities	58	52,735
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	25	19,704
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	21	35,233
9999 - Dormant Company	16	18,617
99999 - Dormant Company	16	25,084
7414 - Business & management consultancy	11	12,113
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	10	13,637
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	10	14,303
74990 - Non-trading company	10	9,729
47910 - Retail sale via mail order houses or via Internet	9	3,439
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	9	9,892
7260 - Other computer related activities	9	7,154
7499 - Non-trading company	8	9,102
45200 - Maintenance and repair of motor vehicles	8	2,832
9305 - Other service activities	8	8,818
5530 - Restaurants	8	4,633
71129 - Other engineering activities	6	2,217
86900 - Other human health activities	6	5,066
5248 - Other retail specialised stores	6	1,837