

Houghton Le Spring

2011 annual business confidence report



headlines

- The second half of 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Houghton Le Spring when compared to any previous second half year.
- Q4 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Houghton Le Spring when compared to any previous Q4.
- December 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Houghton Le Spring when compared to any previous December.
- The second half of 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Houghton Le Spring when compared to any previous second half year.
- Q4 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Houghton Le Spring when compared to any previous Q4.
- November 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Houghton Le Spring when compared to any previous November.
- October 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Houghton Le Spring when compared to any previous October.

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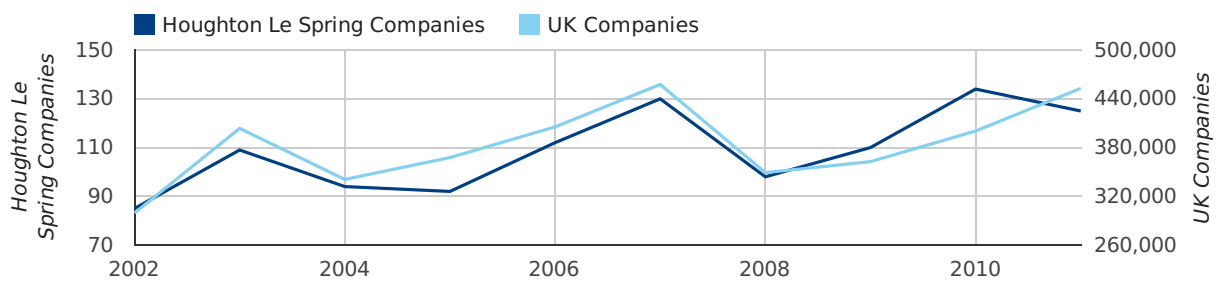
sic data

Annual Data (2011)

A total of 125 companies were formed in Houghton Le Spring in 2011. This total is 6.7% lower than in 2010 and compares favourably to the UK figure of a 13.1% growth compared to 400,358 the previous year.

YEAR	HOUGHTON LE SPRING	UK
2011	125	452,870
2010	134	400,358
2009	110	362,675
2008	98	349,203
2007	130	457,649
RECORD YEAR	2010 (134)	2007 (457,649)

new companies by year



Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

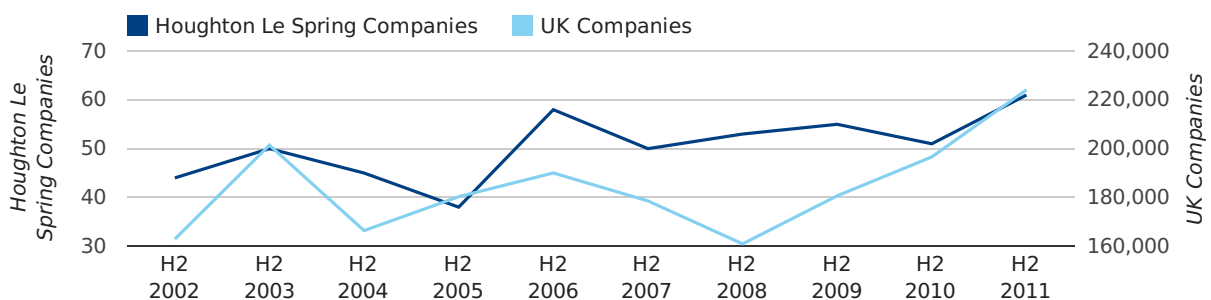
The second half of 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Houghton Le Spring when compared to any previous second half year.

In the second half of 2011 a total of 61 companies were formed in Houghton Le Spring. This figure is 19.6% higher than last year, which compares well to the UK wide figure of 14.0%.

The highest total for a second half year in Houghton Le Spring occurred in 2011 when a total of 61 were formed.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	HOUGHTON LE SPRING	UK
2011	61	224,135
2010	51	196,609
% CHANGE	19.6%	14.0%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (61)	2011 (224,135)

new companies by half year



Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

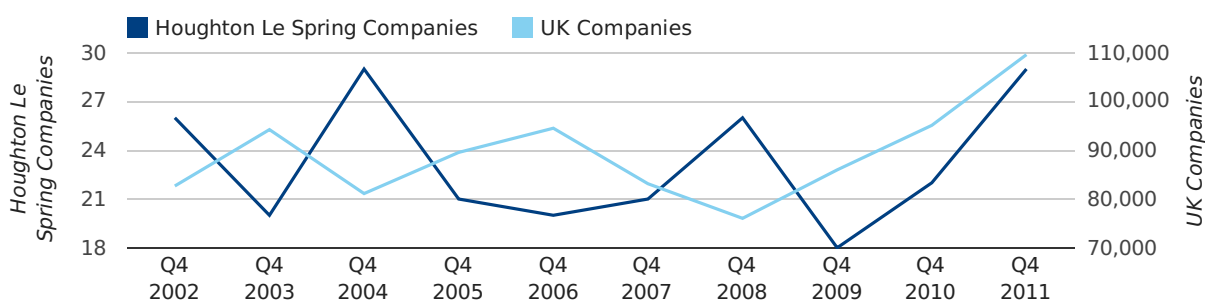
Q4 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Houghton Le Spring when compared to any previous Q4.

A total of 29 companies were registered in Houghton Le Spring during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is an increase of 31.8% versus the same period last year (Q4 2010). This figure compares well 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)	HOUGHTON LE SPRING	UK
2011	29	109,623
2010	22	95,117
% CHANGE	31.8%	15.3%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (29)	2011 (109,623)

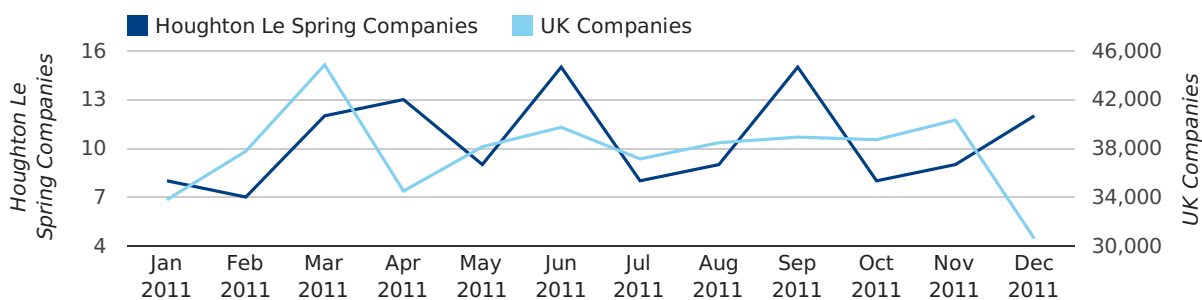
new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

December 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Houghton Le Spring when compared to any previous December.

new companies by month



	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	8	9	12
NEW COMPANIES IN 2010	8	9	5
% CHANGE	0.0%	0.0%	140.0%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (12)	2007 (13)	2011 (12)

Annual Data (2011)

A total of 85 companies were dissolved in Houghton Le Spring in 2011. This total is 15.0% lower than in 2010 and compares unfavourably to the UK figure of 8.1% decrease compared to the previous year.

YEAR	HOUGHTON LE SPRING	UK
2011	85	314,523
2010	100	342,232
2009	130	533,773
2008	57	237,901
2007	60	220,295
RECORD YEAR	2009 (130)	2009 (533,773)

dissolved companies by year



Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

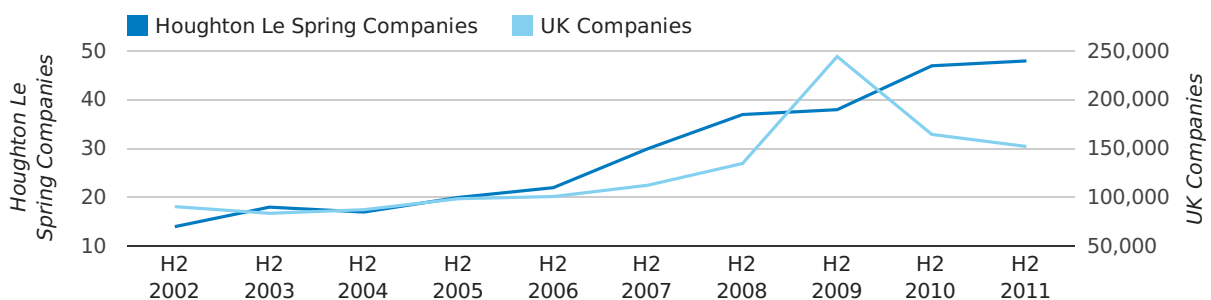
The second half of 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Houghton Le Spring when compared to any previous second half year.

In the second half of 2011 a total of 48 companies were dissolved in Houghton Le Spring. This figure is 2.1% higher than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide change of -7.5%.

The highest total for a second half year in Houghton Le Spring occurred in 2011 when a total of 48 were closed.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	HOUGHTON LE SPRING	UK
2011	48	152,213
2010	47	164,601
% CHANGE	2.1%	-7.5%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (48)	2009 (244,537)

dissolved companies by half year



Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

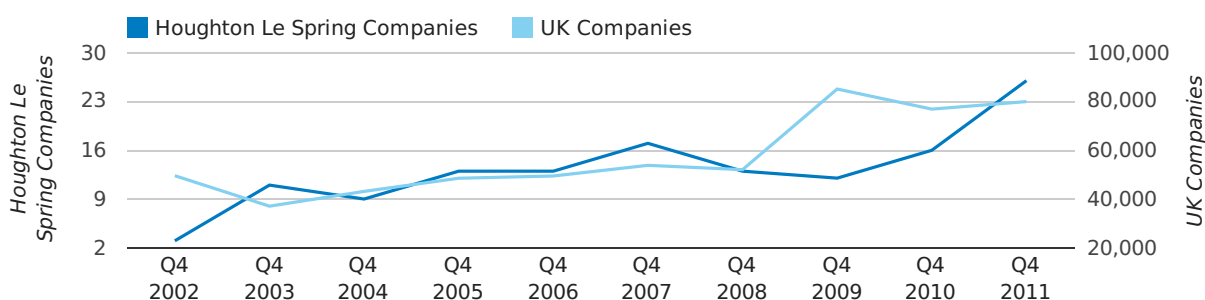
Q4 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Houghton Le Spring when compared to any previous Q4.

A total of 26 companies were dissolved in Houghton Le Spring during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is an increase of 62.5% 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)	HOUGHTON LE SPRING	UK
2011	26	79,983
2010	16	76,896
% CHANGE	62.5%	4.0%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (26)	2009 (85,136)

dissolved companies by quarter

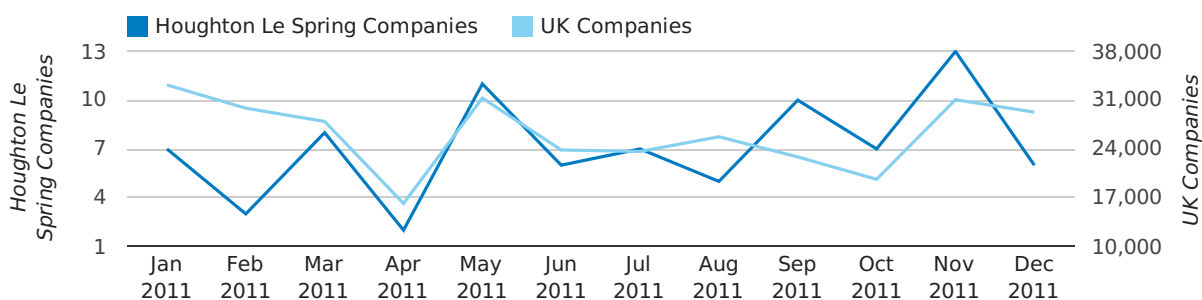


Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

November 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Houghton Le Spring when compared to any previous November.

October 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Houghton Le Spring when compared to any previous October.

dissolved companies by month



	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	7	13	6
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2010	5	4	7
% CHANGE	40.0%	225.0%	-14%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (7)	2011 (13)	2009 (7)

Annual Data (2011)

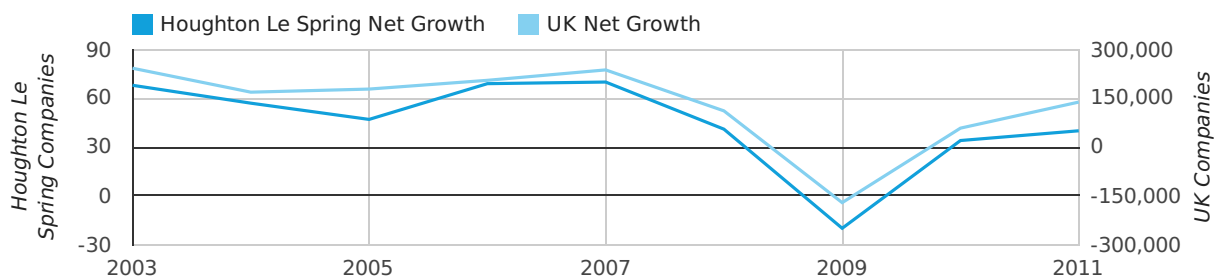
A total of 40 companies were added to the company register for Houghton Le Spring in 2011. This number represents growth of 29.9% which compares unfavourably to the UK figure of 34.6%.

This number is 6 companies higher than the previous year.

The highest net company growth figure ever seen in one year came in 2007 when the Houghton Le Spring company register grew by 70 companies.

YEAR	HOUGHTON LE SPRING	UK
2011	40	138,347
2010	34	58,126
2009	-20	-171,098
2008	41	111,302
2007	70	237,354
RECORD YEAR	2007 (70)	2003 (242,543)

net growth by year

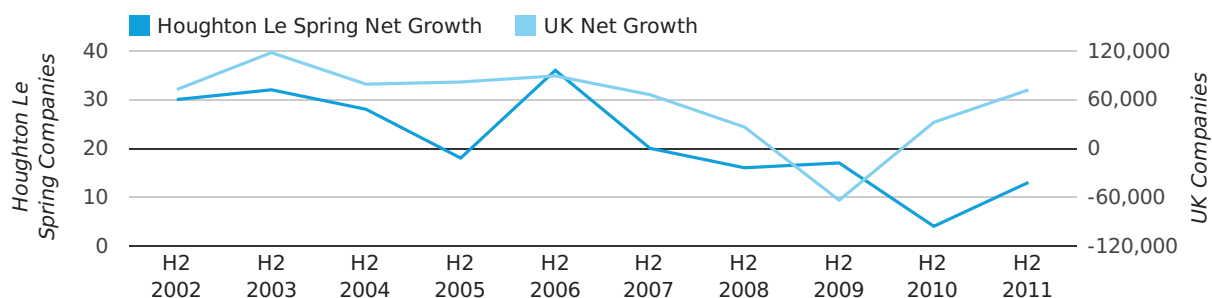


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 the company register for Houghton Le Spring increased by 13 companies. This figure is 225.0% higher than last year, which compares well to a UK increase of 124.7%.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	HOUGHTON LE SPRING	UK
2011	13	71,922
2010	4	32,008
% CHANGE	225.0%	124.7%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (36)	2003 (117,772)

net growth by half year



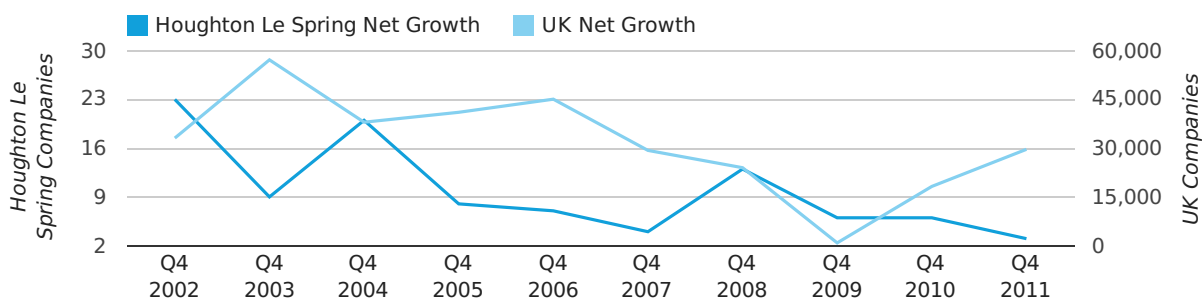
Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

Net company growth for Houghton Le Spring during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011) was 3 companies.

This represents a decrease of 50.0% on the same period last year.

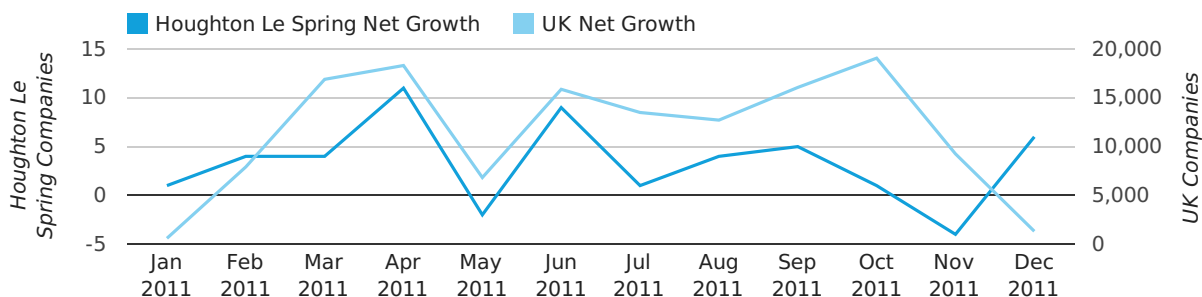
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	HOUGHTON LE SPRING	UK
2011	3	29,640
2010	6	18,221
% CHANGE	-50.0%	62.7%
RECORD YEAR	2002 (23)	2003 (57,175)

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

net growth by month



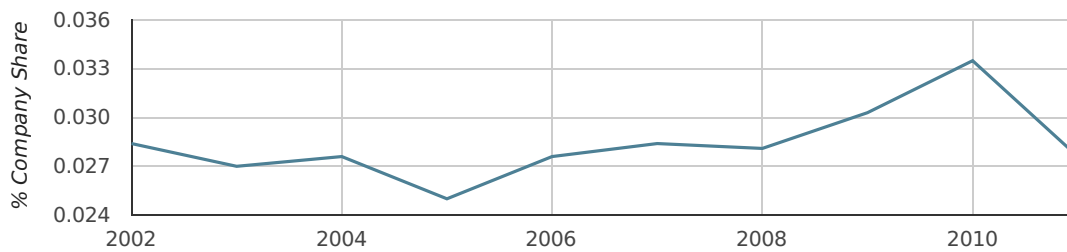
	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
NET GROWTH IN 2011	1	-4	6
NET GROWTH IN 2010	3	5	-2
% CHANGE	-66.7%	-180.0%	-400.0%
RECORD YEAR	2004 (11)	2002 (8)	2005 (7)

Annual Data (2011)

In 2011 Houghton Le Spring formed 0.0% of all UK companies. This is no change on 2010 when Houghton Le Spring was responsible for 0.0% of all UK companies.

YEAR	HOUGHTON LE SPRING
2011	0.0%
2010	0.0%
2009	0.0%
2008	0.0%
2007	0.0%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1960 (0.0%)

company share by year

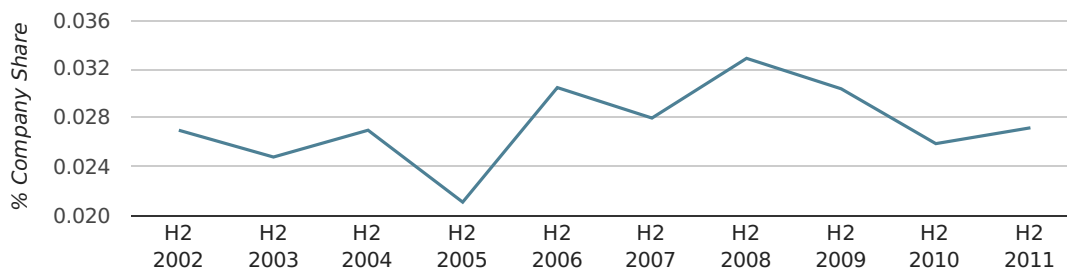


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 Houghton Le Spring formed 0.0% of all UK companies. This is the same as the 2010 figure of 0.0%.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	HOUGHTON LE SPRING
2011	0.0%
2010	0.0%
2009	0.0%
2008	0.0%
2007	0.0%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1980 (0.0%)

company share by half year

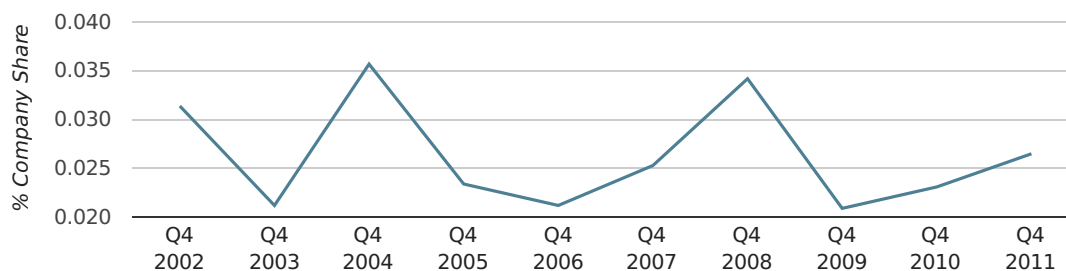


Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

In the fourth quarter of 2011, Houghton Le Spring formed 0.0% of all UK companies.

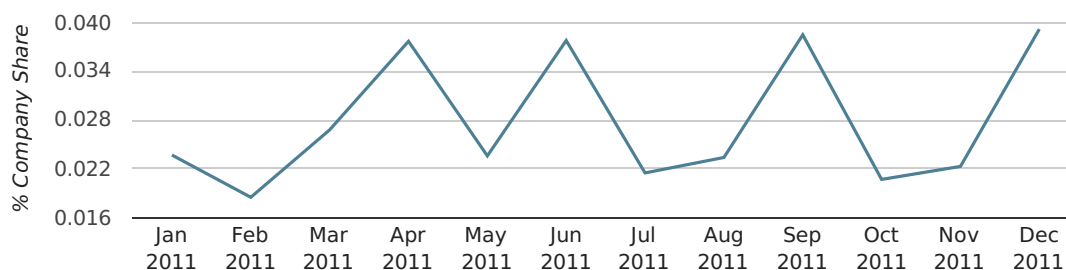
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	HOUGHTON LE SPRING
2011	0.0%
2010	0.0%
2009	0.0%
2008	0.0%
2007	0.0%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1976 (0.1%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

company share by month



	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
% CHANGE	-13.0%	-14.9%	113.0%
RECORD YEAR	1983 (0.1%)	1970 (0.2%)	1976 (0.2%)

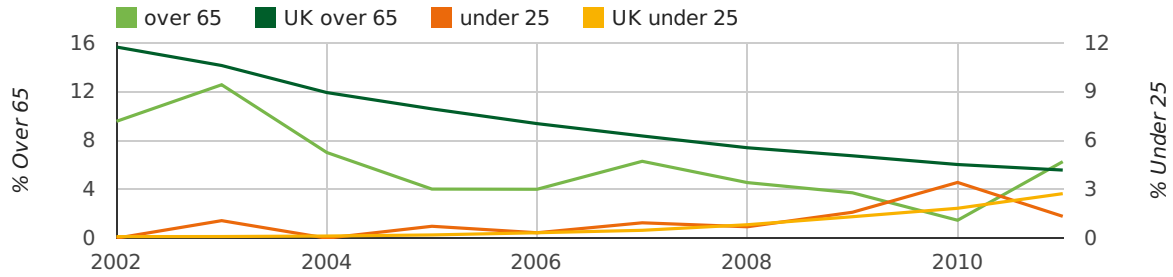
Annual Data (2011)

The average age of a director in 2011 was 44.0.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 1.3% compared to the UK figure of 3.7%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 6.3% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

director age by year



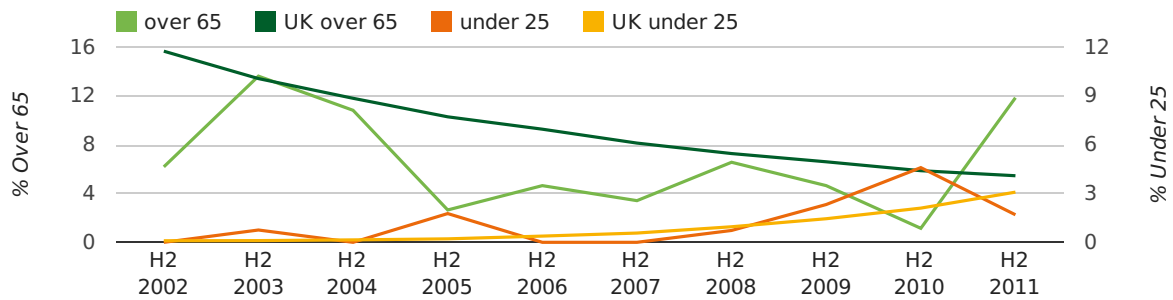
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

The average age of a director in the second half of 2011 was 46.5.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 1.7% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 11.9% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

director age by half year



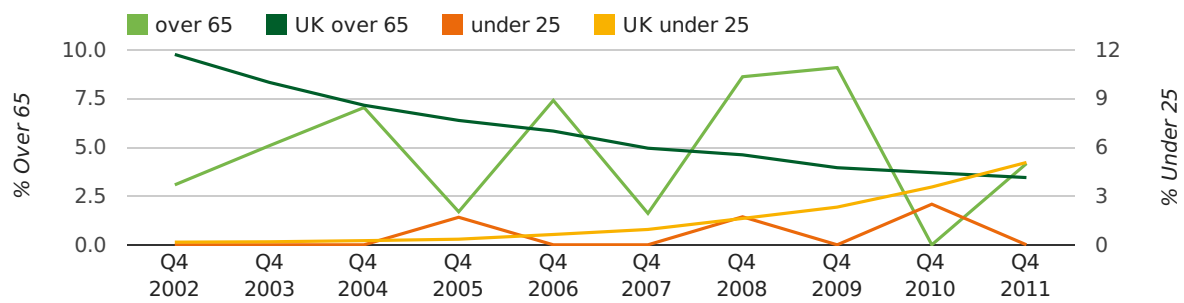
Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

The average age of a director in the fourth quarter of 2011 was 44.6.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 0.0% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 4.2% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

director age by quarter

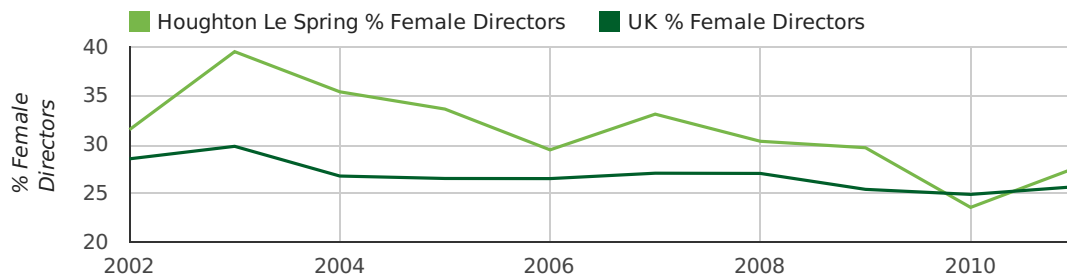


Annual Data (2011)

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

The percentage of female directors in Houghton Le Spring in 2011 was 31.6%. The average for the UK during this time was 28.6%

director gender by year

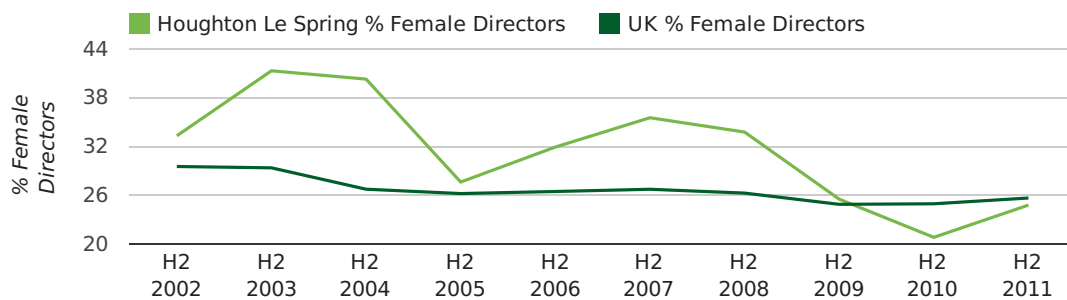


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

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

24.8% of all director appointments in Houghton Le Spring 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

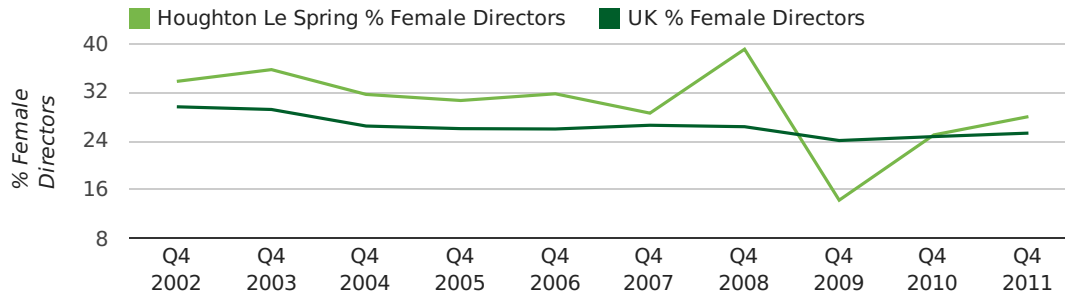


Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

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

28.0% of all director appointments in Houghton Le Spring 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
CARDS	1.40%	CONSULTING	5.07%
LANE	1.40%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
PARK	1.40%	CONSULTANCY	3.26%
MEDIA	1.40%	PROPERTY	2.37%
NORTH	1.05%	TRADING	2.07%
CONSULTING	1.05%	DESIGN	1.92%
ASSOCIATES	1.05%	ASSOCIATES	1.86%
C	1.05%	ENGINEERING	1.78%
-	1.05%	BUSINESS	1.78%
CREATIVE	1.05%	CONSULTANTS	1.76%
CITY	1.05%	CONSTRUCTION	1.73%
FLOORING	1.05%	MEDIA	1.71%
NE	0.70%	LONDON	1.63%
EAST)	0.70%	J	1.51%
L	0.70%	INVESTMENTS	1.48%
AA	0.70%	GLOBAL	1.46%
J.	0.70%	IT	1.41%
SHUTTERS	0.70%	CARE	1.39%
)	0.70%	PROPERTIES	1.29%
J	0.70%	ELECTRICAL	1.29%
CONSULTANTS	0.70%	M	1.27%
NEW	0.70%	BUILDING	1.26%
CARE	0.70%	ENERGY	1.25%
SPORTS	0.70%	S	1.20%
BRENNAN	0.70%	ENTERPRISES	1.20%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	61	205,525
7487 - Other business activities	14	57,052
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	9	32,483
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	8	17,765
9999 - Dormant Company	8	20,199
7499 - Non-trading company	4	9,957
62012 - Business and domestic software development	4	3,714
62090 - Other information technology service activities	3	7,493
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	3	11,768
7414 - Business & management consultancy	3	13,034
70100 - Activities of head offices	3	2,662
71129 - Other engineering activities	3	1,823
4521 - General construction & civil engineering	3	5,558
8042 - Adult and other education	3	2,253
41100 - Development of building projects	3	4,331
68209 - Other letting and operating of own or leased real estate	2	4,082
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	2	8,671
6523 - Other financial intermediation	2	1,891
5050 - Retail sale of automotive fuel	2	55
99999 - Dormant Company	2	21,846