

Leighton Buzzard

2011 annual business confidence report



headlines

- December 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Leighton Buzzard when compared to any previous December.
- December 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Leighton Buzzard when compared to any previous December.

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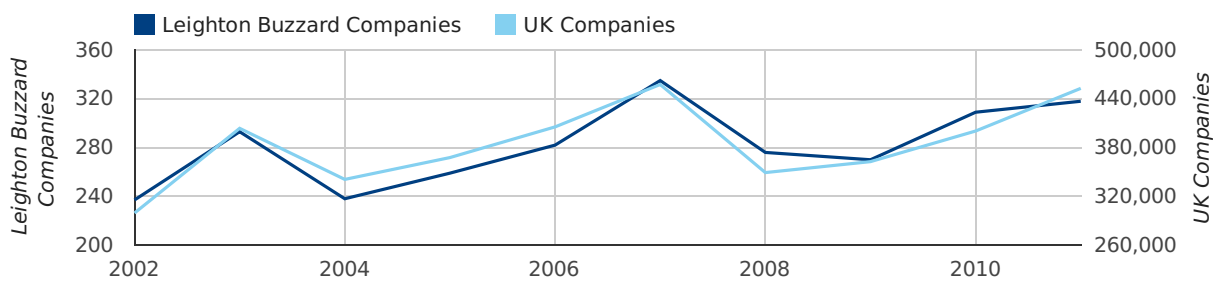
sic data

Annual Data (2011)

A total of 318 companies were formed in Leighton Buzzard in 2011. This total is 2.9% higher than in 2010 and compares favourably to the UK figure of a 13.1% growth compared to 400,358 the previous year.

YEAR	LEIGHTON BUZZARD	UK
2011	318	452,870
2010	309	400,358
2009	270	362,675
2008	276	349,203
2007	335	457,649
RECORD YEAR	2007 (335)	2007 (457,649)

new companies by year



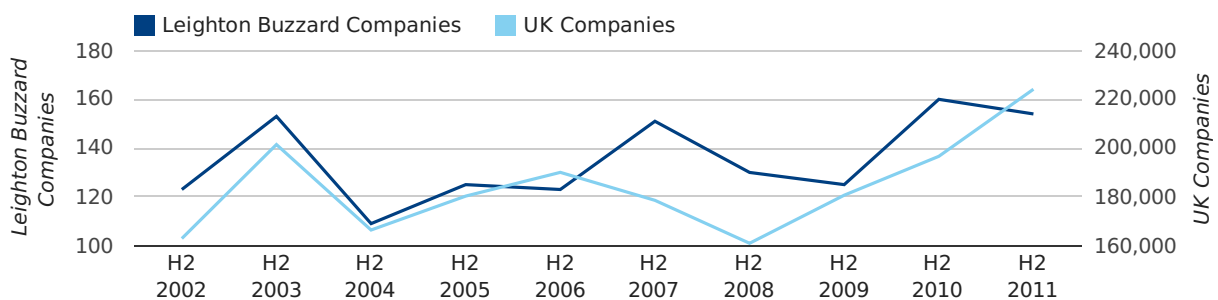
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 a total of 154 companies were formed in Leighton Buzzard. This figure is 3.8% lower than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide figure of 14.0%.

The highest total for a second half year in Leighton Buzzard occurred in 2010 when a total of 160 were formed.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	LEIGHTON BUZZARD	UK
2011	154	224,135
2010	160	196,609
% CHANGE	-3.8%	14.0%
RECORD YEAR	2010 (160)	2011 (224,135)

new companies by half year



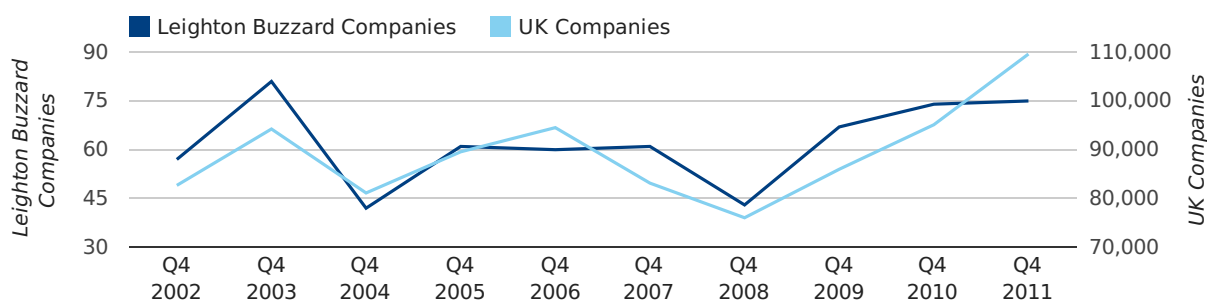
Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

A total of 75 companies were registered in Leighton Buzzard during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is an increase of 1.4% 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)	LEIGHTON BUZZARD	UK
2011	75	109,623
2010	74	95,117
% CHANGE	1.4%	15.3%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (81)	2011 (109,623)

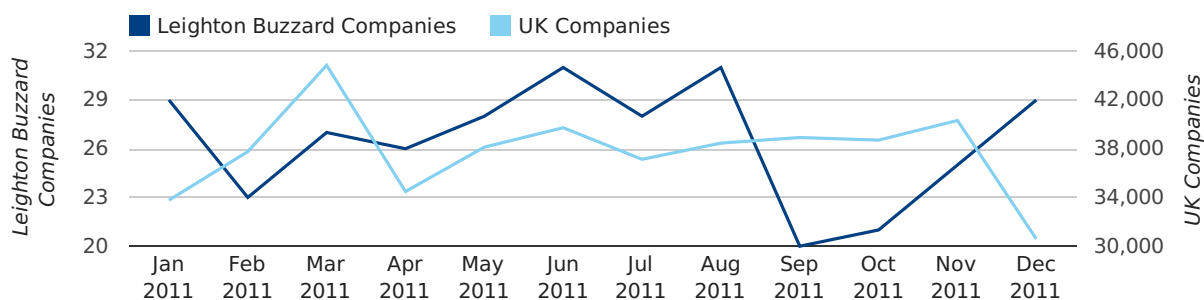
new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

December 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Leighton Buzzard when compared to any previous December.

new companies by month



	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	21	25	29
NEW COMPANIES IN 2010	28	25	21
% CHANGE	-25.0%	0.0%	38.1%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (34)	2009 (26)	2011 (29)

Annual Data (2011)

A total of 209 companies were dissolved in Leighton Buzzard in 2011. This total is 15.4% lower than in 2010 and compares unfavourably to the UK figure of 8.1% decrease compared to the previous year.

YEAR	LEIGHTON BUZZARD	UK
2011	209	314,523
2010	247	342,232
2009	304	533,773
2008	144	237,901
2007	148	220,295
RECORD YEAR	2009 (304)	2009 (533,773)

dissolved companies by year



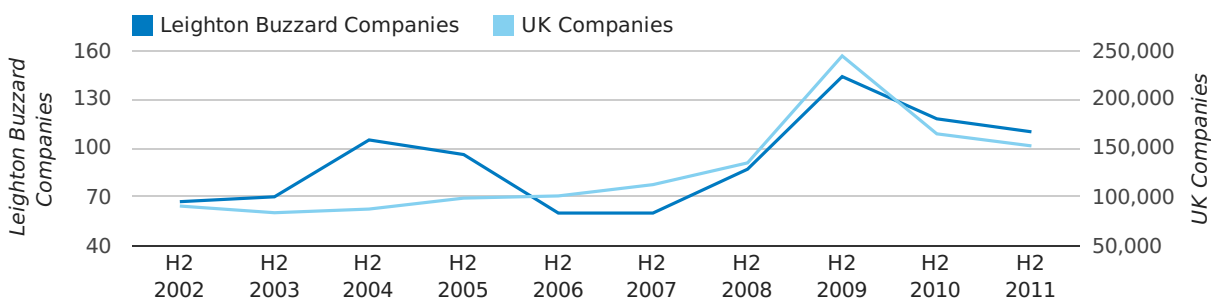
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 a total of 110 companies were dissolved in Leighton Buzzard. This figure is 6.8% lower than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide change of -7.5%.

The highest total for a second half year in Leighton Buzzard occurred in 2009 when a total of 144 were closed.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	LEIGHTON BUZZARD	UK
2011	110	152,213
2010	118	164,601
% CHANGE	-6.8%	-7.5%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (144)	2009 (244,537)

dissolved companies by half year



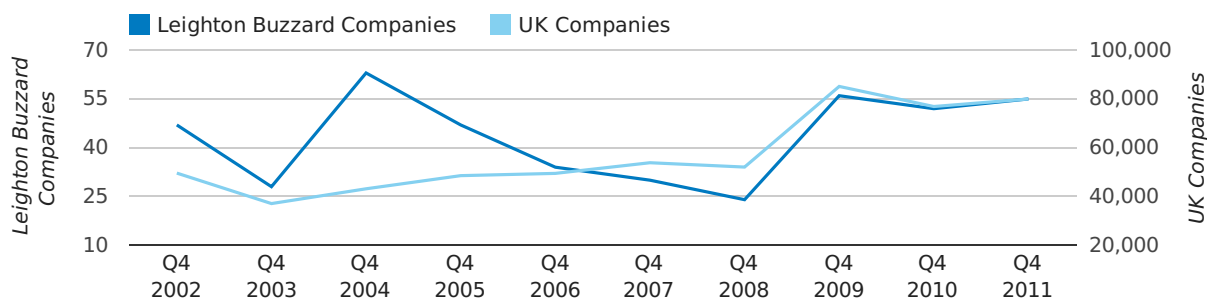
Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

A total of 55 companies were dissolved in Leighton Buzzard during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is an increase of 5.8% 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)	LEIGHTON BUZZARD	UK
2011	55	79,983
2010	52	76,896
% CHANGE	5.8%	4.0%
RECORD YEAR	2004 (63)	2009 (85,136)

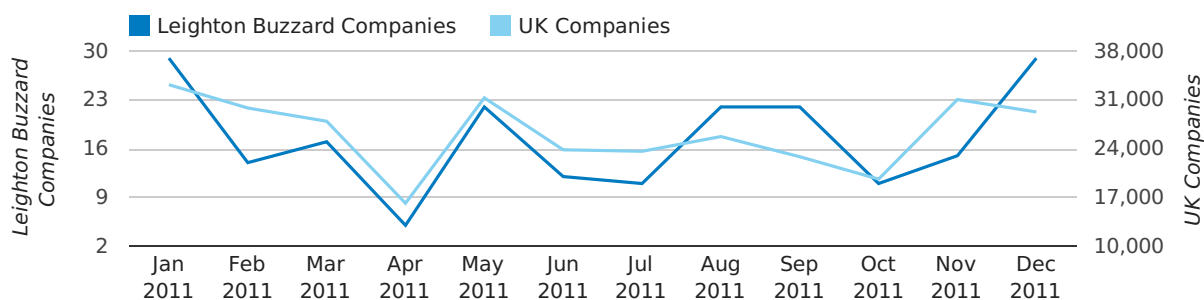
dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

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

dissolved companies by month



	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	11	15	29
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2010	24	20	8
% CHANGE	-54.2%	-25.0%	263%
RECORD YEAR	2010 (24)	2004 (25)	2011 (29)

Annual Data (2011)

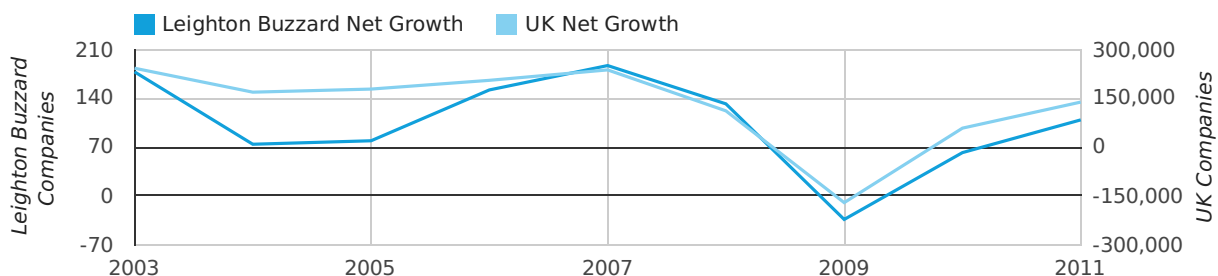
A total of 109 companies were added to the company register for Leighton Buzzard in 2011. This number represents growth of 35.3% which compares favourably to the UK figure of 34.6%.

This number is 47 companies higher than the previous year.

The highest net company growth figure ever seen in one year came in 2007 when the Leighton Buzzard company register grew by 187 companies.

YEAR	LEIGHTON BUZZARD	UK
2011	109	138,347
2010	62	58,126
2009	-34	-171,098
2008	132	111,302
2007	187	237,354
RECORD YEAR	2007 (187)	2003 (242,543)

net growth by year

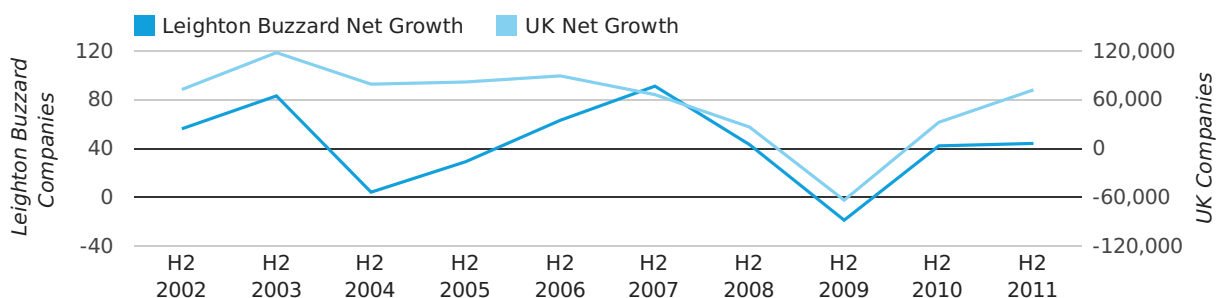


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 the company register for Leighton Buzzard increased by 44 companies. This figure is 4.8% higher than last year, which compares badly to a UK increase of 124.7%.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	LEIGHTON BUZZARD	UK
2011	44	71,922
2010	42	32,008
% CHANGE	4.8%	124.7%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (91)	2003 (117,772)

net growth by half year



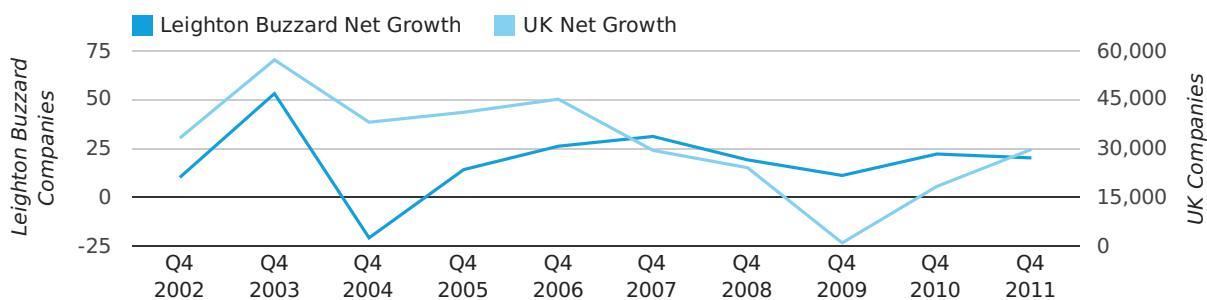
Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

Net company growth for Leighton Buzzard during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011) was 20 companies.

This represents a decrease of 9.1% on the same period last year.

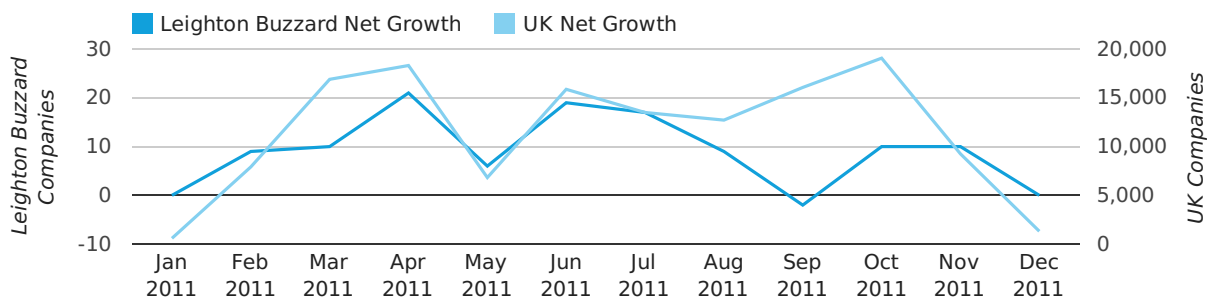
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	LEIGHTON BUZZARD	UK
2011	20	29,640
2010	22	18,221
% CHANGE	-9.1%	62.7%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (53)	2003 (57,175)

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

net growth by month



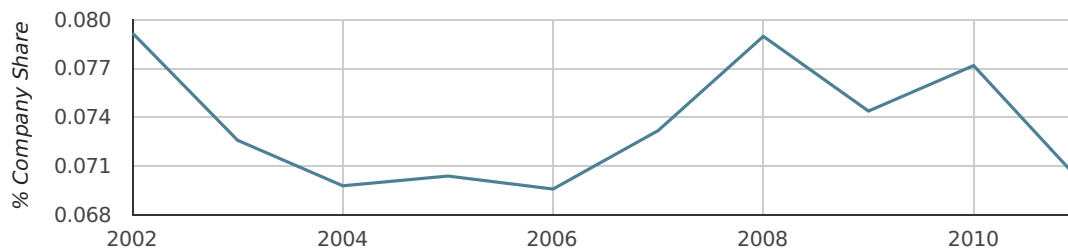
	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
NET GROWTH IN 2011	10	10	0
NET GROWTH IN 2010	4	5	13
% CHANGE	150.0%	100.0%	-100.0%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (29)	1997 (17)	2007 (14)

Annual Data (2011)

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

YEAR	LEIGHTON BUZZARD
2011	0.1%
2010	0.1%
2009	0.1%
2008	0.1%
2007	0.1%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1979 (0.1%)

company share by year

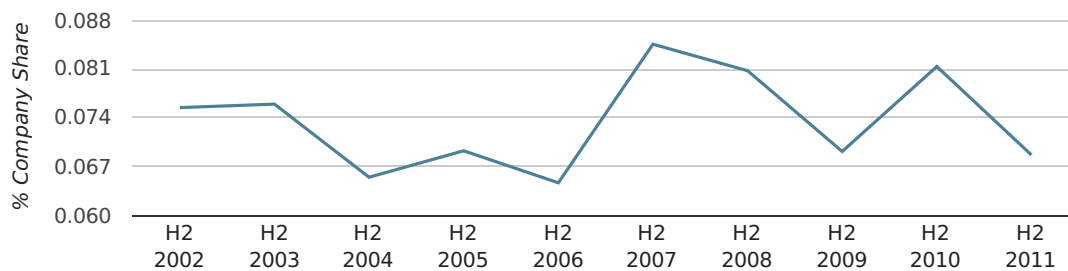


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

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

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	LEIGHTON BUZZARD
2011	0.1%
2010	0.1%
2009	0.1%
2008	0.1%
2007	0.1%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1979 (0.1%)

company share by half year

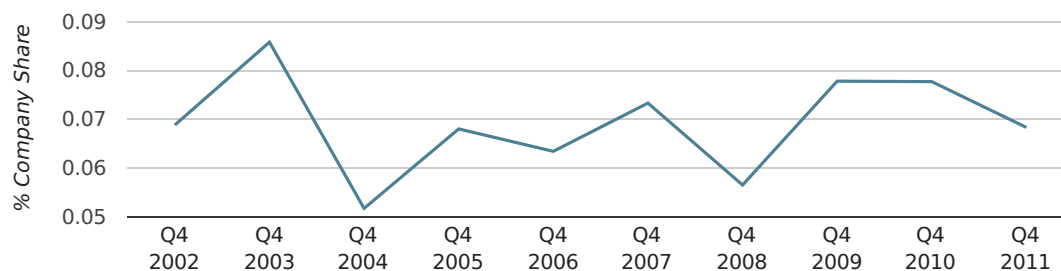


Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

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

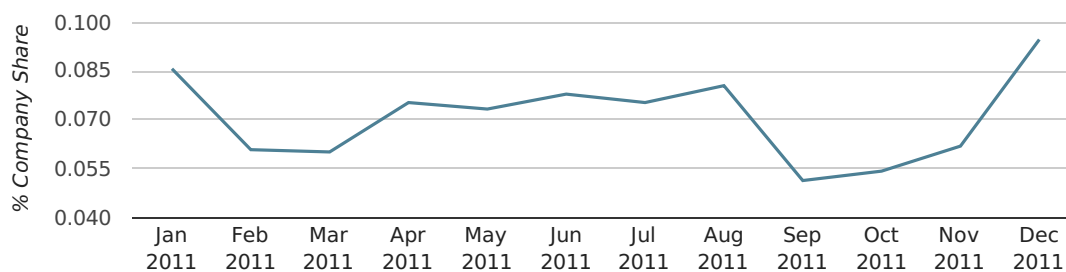
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	LEIGHTON BUZZARD
2011	0.1%
2010	0.1%
2009	0.1%
2008	0.1%
2007	0.1%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1978 (0.2%)

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%	0.1%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
% CHANGE	-34.7%	-14.8%	22.5%
RECORD YEAR	1967 (0.3%)	1976 (0.2%)	1979 (0.3%)

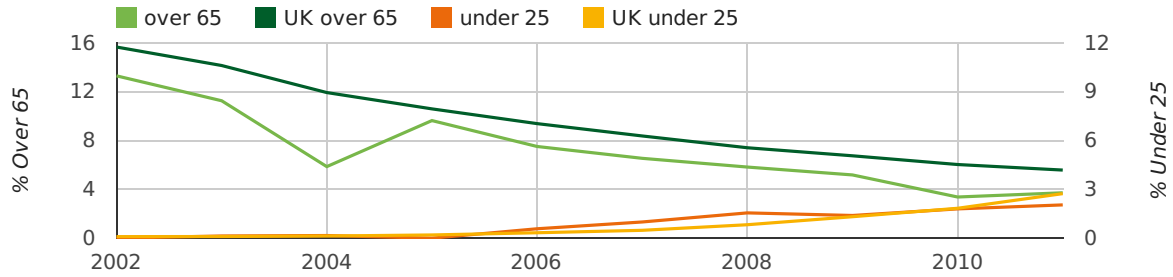
Annual Data (2011)

The average age of a director in 2011 was 45.3.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 2.0% compared to the UK figure of 3.7%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.7% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

director age by year



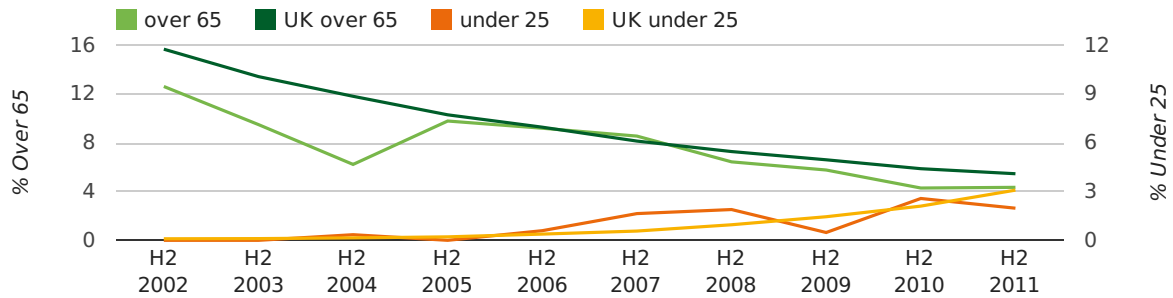
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

The average age of a director in the second half of 2011 was 45.9.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 2.0% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 4.3% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

director age by half year



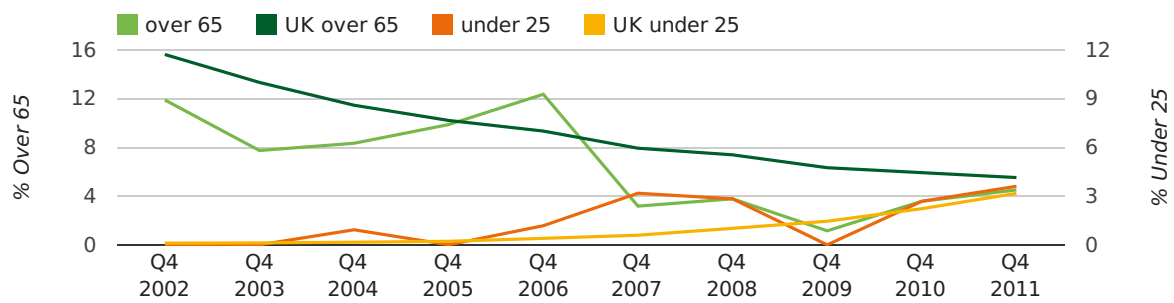
Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

The average age of a director in the fourth quarter of 2011 was 43.5.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 3.6% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 4.5% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

director age by quarter

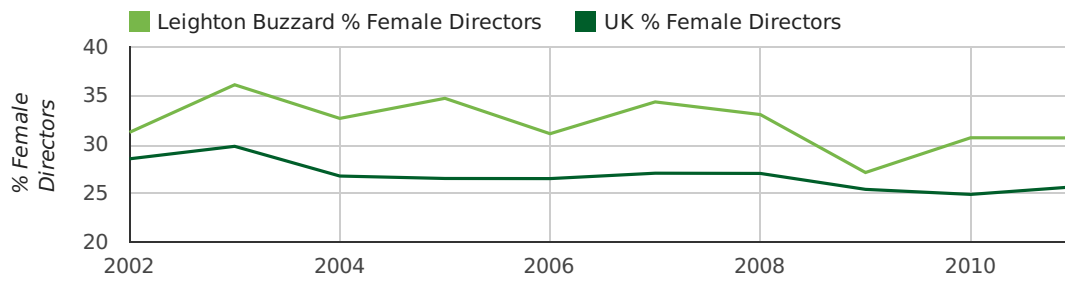


Annual Data (2011)

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

The percentage of female directors in Leighton Buzzard in 2011 was 31.3%. The average for the UK during this time was 28.6%

director gender by year

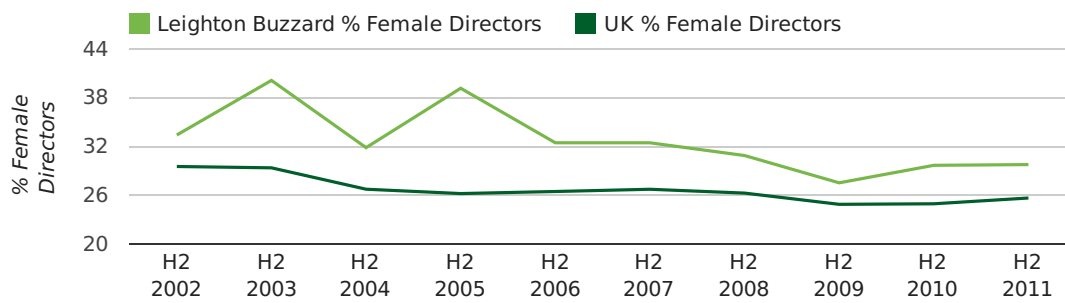


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

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

29.8% of all director appointments in Leighton Buzzard 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

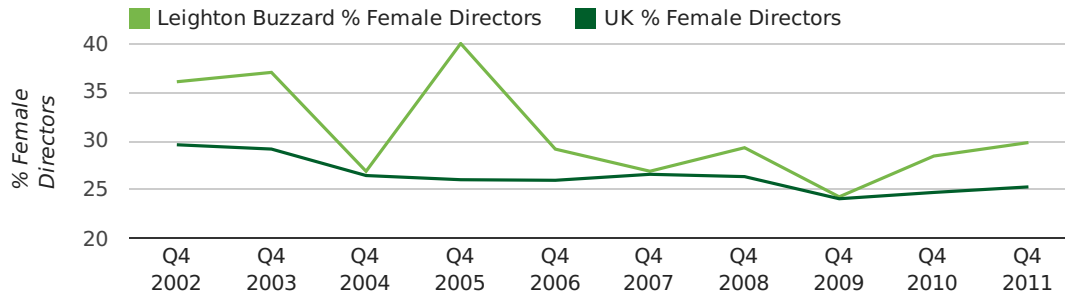


Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

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

29.8% of all director appointments in Leighton Buzzard 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
CONSULTING	1.68%	CONSULTING	5.07%
CONSTRUCTION	1.18%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
ELECTRICAL	1.01%	CONSULTANCY	3.26%
ENGINEERING	0.84%	PROPERTY	2.37%
DIGITAL	0.67%	TRADING	2.07%
CLUB	0.67%	DESIGN	1.92%
J	0.67%	ASSOCIATES	1.86%
CONSULTANCY	0.67%	ENGINEERING	1.78%
ACADEMY	0.67%	BUSINESS	1.78%
MANAGEMENT	0.67%	CONSULTANTS	1.76%
PROPERTY	0.67%	CONSTRUCTION	1.73%
TRUST	0.67%	MEDIA	1.71%
TRADING	0.67%	LONDON	1.63%
SUPPLIES	0.67%	J	1.51%
IT	0.67%	INVESTMENTS	1.48%
DESIGN	0.50%	GLOBAL	1.46%
T	0.50%	IT	1.41%
APPS	0.50%	CARE	1.39%
LB	0.50%	PROPERTIES	1.29%
COACHING	0.50%	ELECTRICAL	1.29%
CONSULTANTS	0.50%	M	1.27%
SPORTS	0.50%	BUILDING	1.26%
ASSOCIATES	0.50%	ENERGY	1.25%
M	0.50%	S	1.20%
HOME	0.50%	ENTERPRISES	1.20%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	127	205,525
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	26	17,765
7487 - Other business activities	20	57,052
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	19	32,483
99999 - Dormant Company	17	21,846
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	17	12,072
7414 - Business & management consultancy	16	13,034
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	11	11,768
74990 - Non-trading company	9	8,929
9999 - Dormant Company	9	20,199
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	9	7,398
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	9	8,671
62090 - Other information technology service activities	8	7,493
7499 - Non-trading company	7	9,957
68320 - Management of real estate on a fee or contract basis	7	3,194
4525 - Other special trades construction	6	1,651
9305 - Other service activities	6	9,492
7011 - Development & sell real estate	6	2,287
62012 - Business and domestic software development	5	3,714
41100 - Development of building projects	5	4,331