

# Watford

2011 annual business confidence report



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- November 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Watford when compared to any previous November.

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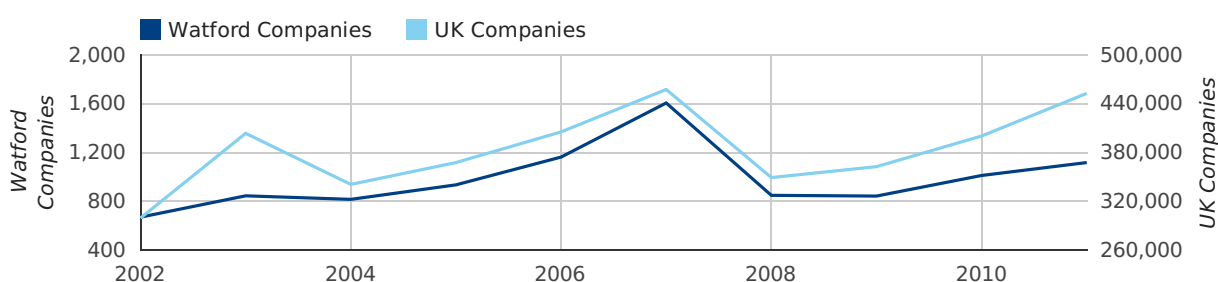
sic data

### Annual Data (2011)

A total of 1,118 companies were formed in Watford in 2011. This total is 10.5% higher than in 2010 and compares equally to the UK figure of a 13.1% growth compared to 400,358 the previous year.

YEAR	WATFORD	UK
2011	1,118	452,870
2010	1,012	400,358
2009	843	362,675
2008	849	349,203
2007	1,607	457,649
RECORD YEAR	2007 (1,607)	2007 (457,649)

### new companies by year



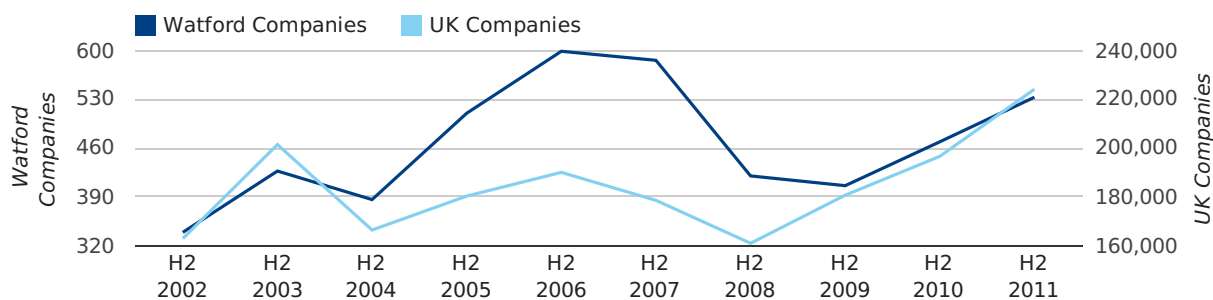
### Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 a total of 533 companies were formed in Watford. This figure is 13.6% higher than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide figure of 14.0%.

The highest total for a second half year in Watford occurred in 2006 when a total of 599 were formed.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	WATFORD	UK
2011	533	224,135
2010	469	196,609
% CHANGE	13.6%	14.0%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (599)	2011 (224,135)

### new companies by half year



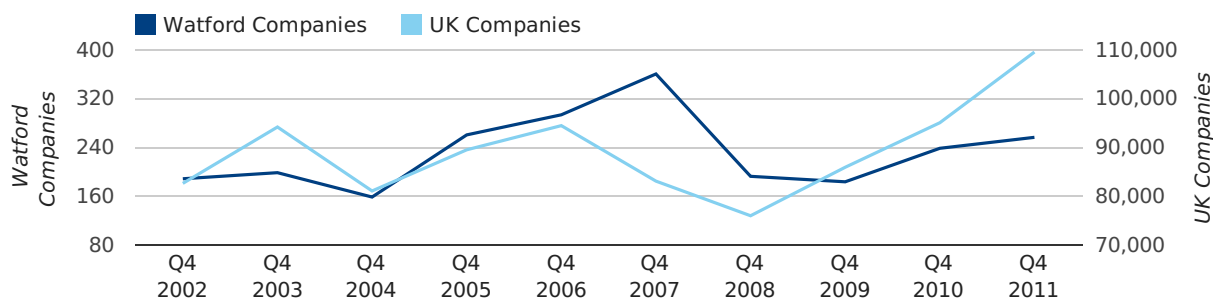
## Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

A total of 257 companies were registered in Watford during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is an increase of 7.5% 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)	WATFORD	UK
2011	257	109,623
2010	239	95,117
% CHANGE	7.5%	15.3%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (361)	2011 (109,623)

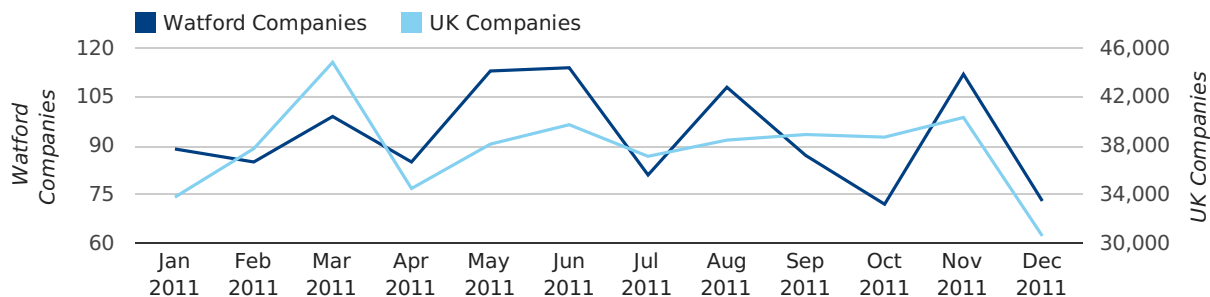
### new companies by quarter



## Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

November 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Watford when compared to any previous November.

### new companies by month



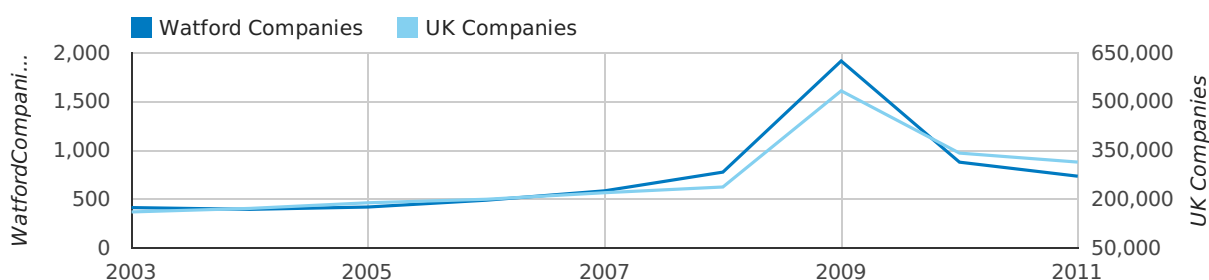
	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	72	112	73
NEW COMPANIES IN 2010	88	83	68
% CHANGE	-18.2%	34.9%	7.4%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (231)	2011 (112)	2006 (106)

### Annual Data (2011)

A total of 737 companies were dissolved in Watford in 2011. This total is 16.3% lower than in 2010 and compares unfavourably to the UK figure of 8.1% decrease compared to the previous year.

YEAR	WATFORD	UK
2011	737	314,523
2010	881	342,232
2009	1,919	533,773
2008	779	237,901
2007	587	220,295
RECORD YEAR	2009 (1,919)	2009 (533,773)

### dissolved companies by year



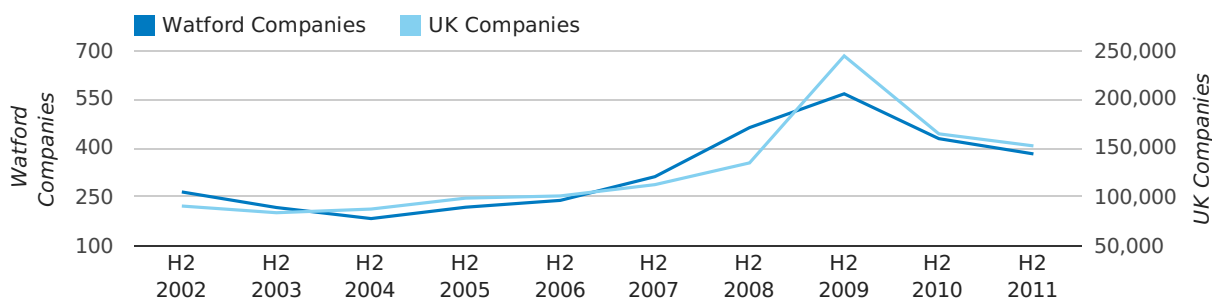
### Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 a total of 382 companies were dissolved in Watford. This figure is 11.0% lower than last year, which compares well to the UK wide change of -7.5%.

The highest total for a second half year in Watford occurred in 2009 when a total of 567 were closed.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	WATFORD	UK
2011	382	152,213
2010	429	164,601
% CHANGE	-11.0%	-7.5%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (567)	2009 (244,537)

### dissolved companies by half year



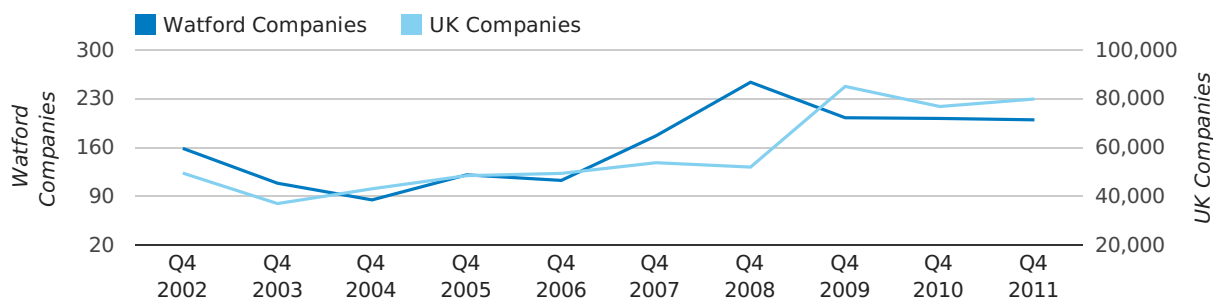
## Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

A total of 200 companies were dissolved in Watford during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is a decrease of 1.0% versus the same period last year (Q4 2010). This figure compares well to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 4.0% against the same period last year.

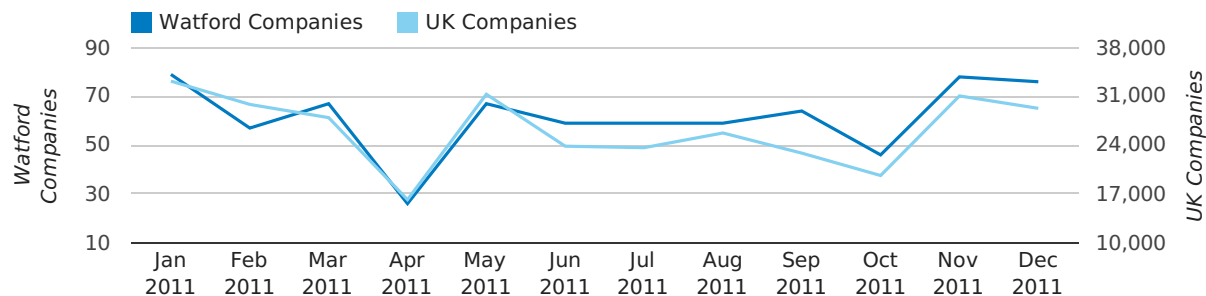
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	WATFORD	UK
2011	200	79,983
2010	202	76,896
% CHANGE	-1.0%	4.0%
RECORD YEAR	2008 (254)	2009 (85,136)

### dissolved companies by quarter



## Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

### dissolved companies by month



	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	46	78	76
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2010	84	80	38
% CHANGE	-45.2%	-2.5%	100%
RECORD YEAR	2010 (84)	2008 (124)	2008 (89)

### Annual Data (2011)

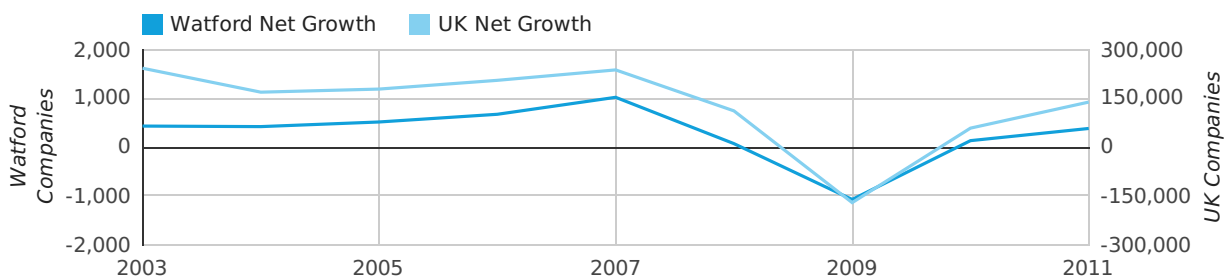
A total of 381 companies were added to the company register for Watford in 2011. This number represents growth of 37.6% which compares favourably to the UK figure of 34.6%.

This number is 250 companies higher than the previous year.

The highest net company growth figure ever seen in one year came in 2007 when the Watford company register grew by 1,020 companies.

YEAR	WATFORD	UK
2011	381	138,347
2010	131	58,126
2009	-1,076	-171,098
2008	70	111,302
2007	1,020	237,354
RECORD YEAR	2007 (1,020)	2003 (242,543)

### net growth by year

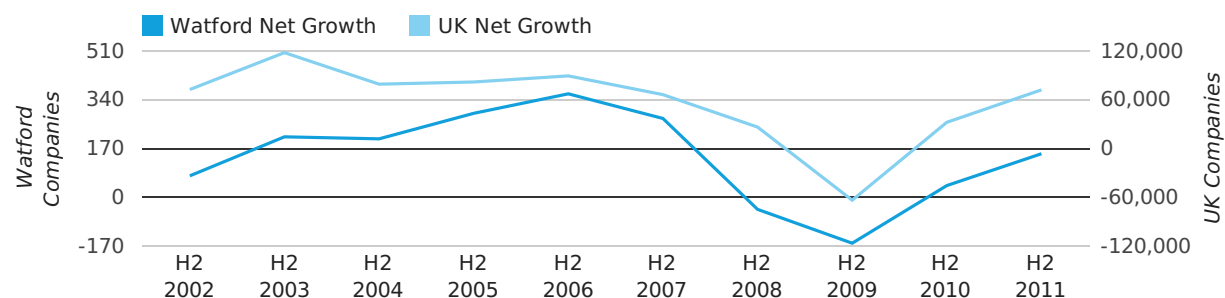


### Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 the company register for Watford increased by 151 companies. This figure is 277.5% higher than last year, which compares well to a UK increase of 124.7%.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	WATFORD	UK
2011	151	71,922
2010	40	32,008
% CHANGE	277.5%	124.7%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (360)	2003 (117,772)

### net growth by half year



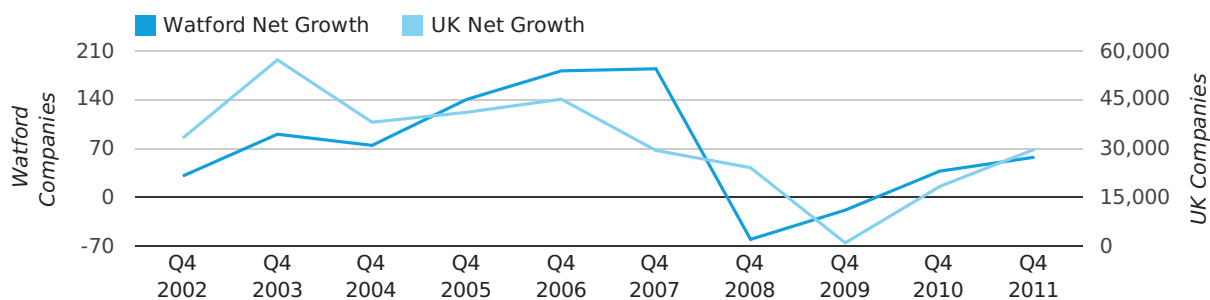
## Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

Net company growth for Watford during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011) was 57 companies.

This represents an increase of 54.1% on the same period last year.

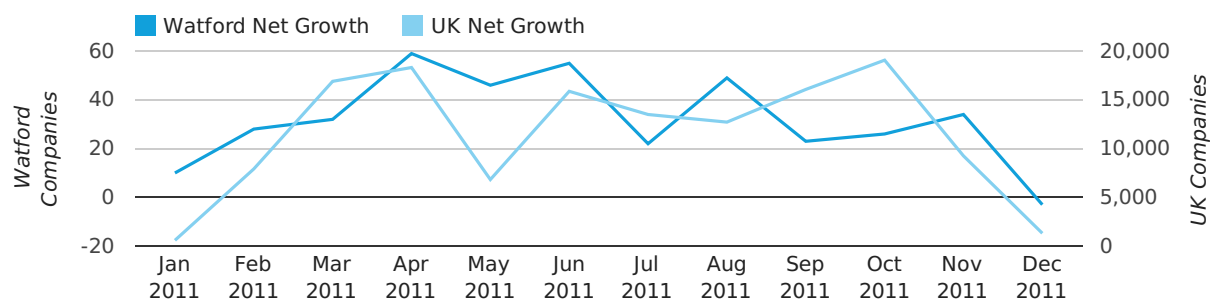
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	WATFORD	UK
2011	57	29,640
2010	37	18,221
% CHANGE	54.1%	62.7%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (184)	2003 (57,175)

### net growth by quarter



## Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

### net growth by month



	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
NET GROWTH IN 2011	26	34	-3
NET GROWTH IN 2010	4	3	30
% CHANGE	550.0%	1,033.3%	-110.0%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (168)	2006 (65)	2006 (88)

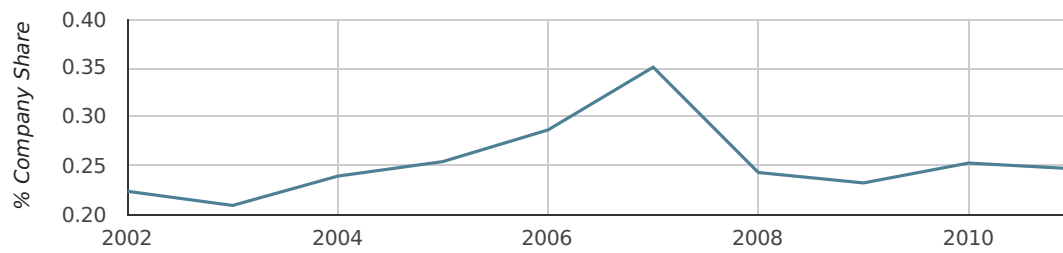


### Annual Data (2011)

In 2011 Watford formed 0.2% of all UK companies. This is a decline on 2010 when Watford was responsible for 0.3% of all UK companies.

YEAR	WATFORD
2011	0.2%
2010	0.3%
2009	0.2%
2008	0.2%
2007	0.4%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1962 (0.7%)

### company share by year

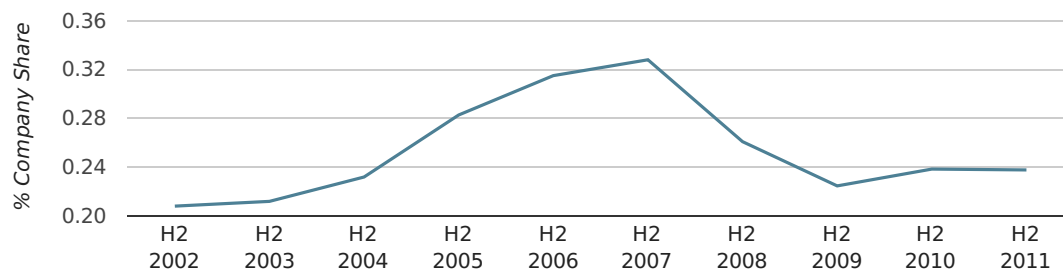


### Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 Watford formed 0.2% of all UK companies. This is the same as the 2010 figure of 0.2%.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	WATFORD
2011	0.2%
2010	0.2%
2009	0.2%
2008	0.3%
2007	0.3%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1962 (0.8%)

### company share by half year

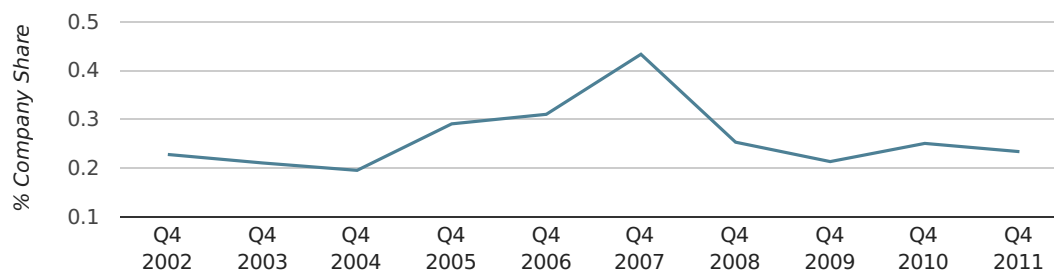


## Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

In the fourth quarter of 2011, Watford formed 0.2% of all UK companies.

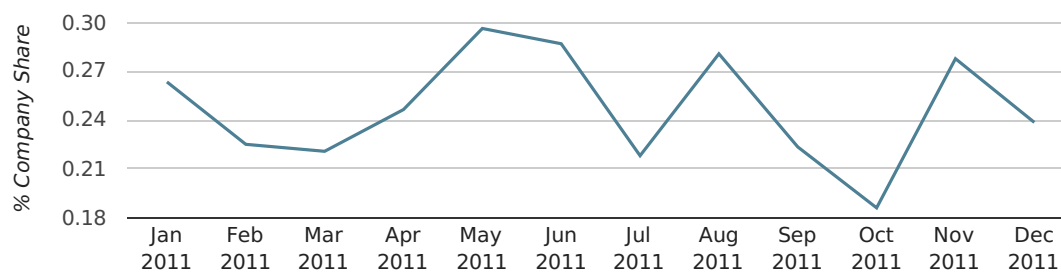
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	WATFORD
2011	0.2%
2010	0.3%
2009	0.2%
2008	0.3%
2007	0.4%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1962 (1.0%)

### company share by quarter



## Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

### company share by month



	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%
% CHANGE	-28.9%	14.9%	-4.8%
RECORD YEAR	1962 (1.9%)	1970 (1.0%)	1966 (0.9%)

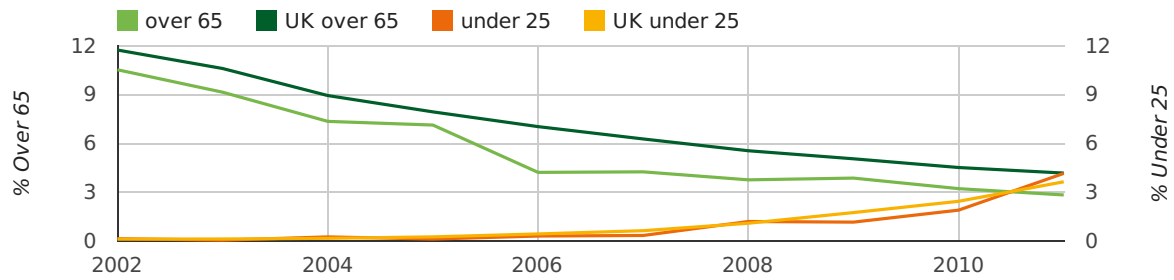
### Annual Data (2011)

The average age of a director in 2011 was 41.5.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 4.2% compared to the UK figure of 3.7%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 2.8% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

#### director age by year



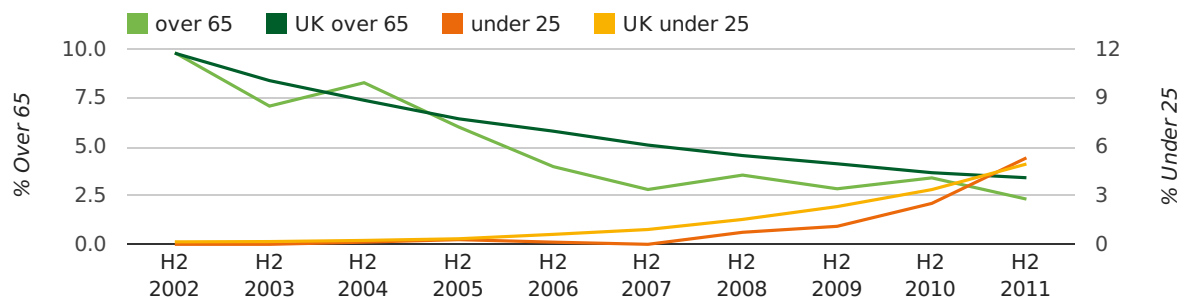
### Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

The average age of a director in the second half of 2011 was 40.9.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 5.3% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 2.3% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

#### director age by half year



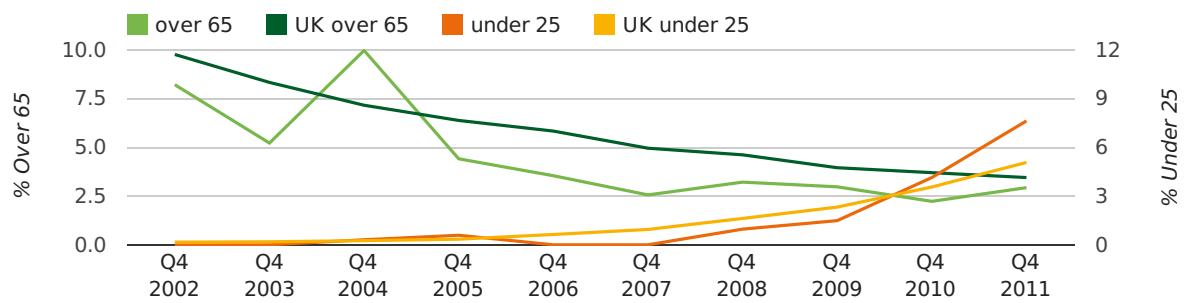
## Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

The average age of a director in the fourth quarter of 2011 was 40.9.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 7.6% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 2.9% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

### director age by quarter

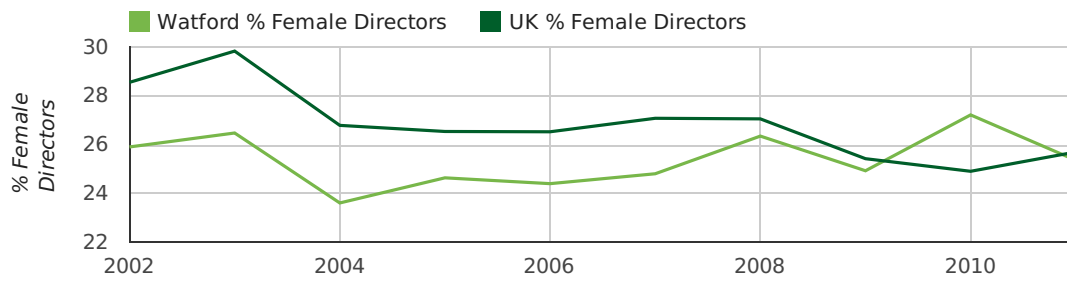


### Annual Data (2011)

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

The percentage of female directors in Watford in 2011 was 25.9%. The average for the UK during this time was 28.6%

#### director gender by year

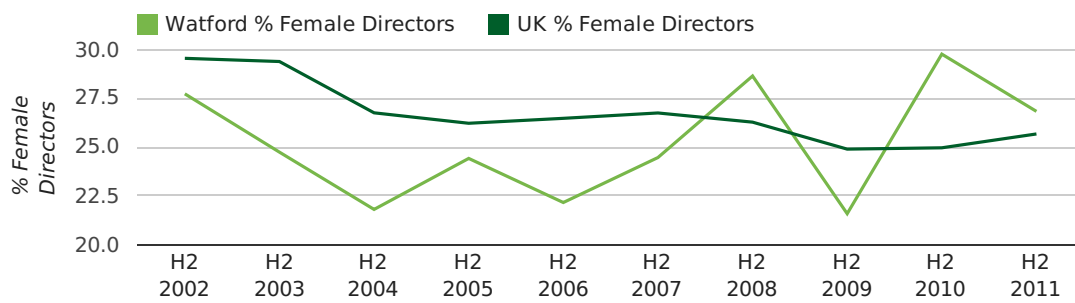


### Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

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

26.8% of all director appointments in Watford 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

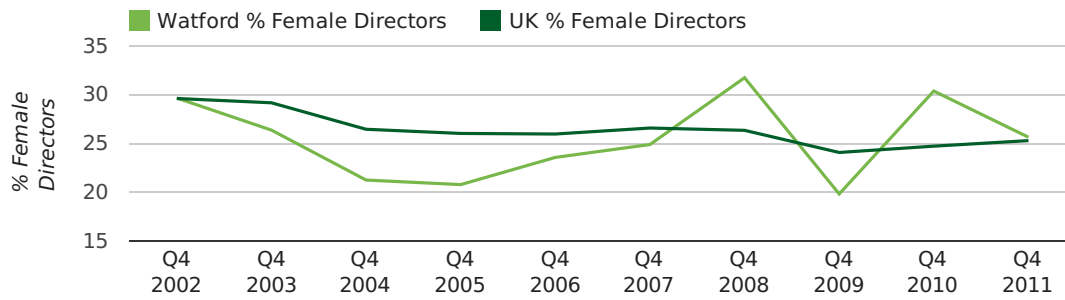


## Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

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

25.6% of all director appointments in Watford 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, &amp;, UK, SERVICES, THE, (UK), AND, LTD., A, LLP, SOLUTIONS, COMPANY, OF.

WORD	PERCENTAGE	UK WORD	UK PERCENTAGE
CONSULTING	2.71%	CONSULTING	5.07%
MANAGEMENT	2.41%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
CONSULTANCY	1.93%	CONSULTANCY	3.26%
WATFORD	1.02%	PROPERTY	2.37%
INVESTMENTS	1.02%	TRADING	2.07%
CONSTRUCTION	0.84%	DESIGN	1.92%
CONSULTANTS	0.72%	ASSOCIATES	1.86%
PROPERTY	0.66%	ENGINEERING	1.78%
GLOBAL	0.66%	BUSINESS	1.78%
IT	0.60%	CONSULTANTS	1.76%
BUSINESS	0.54%	CONSTRUCTION	1.73%
MEDIA	0.54%	MEDIA	1.71%
TRADING	0.54%	LONDON	1.63%
LONDON	0.48%	J	1.51%
MAINTENANCE	0.48%	INVESTMENTS	1.48%
MARKETING	0.48%	GLOBAL	1.46%
M	0.48%	IT	1.41%
BUILDING	0.48%	CARE	1.39%
ASSET	0.42%	PROPERTIES	1.29%
P	0.42%	ELECTRICAL	1.29%
TECHNOLOGIES	0.42%	M	1.27%
CO	0.42%	BUILDING	1.26%
TEST	0.42%	ENERGY	1.25%
HOUSE	0.42%	S	1.20%
MY	0.42%	ENTERPRISES	1.20%

## Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	453	205,525
7487 - Other business activities	108	57,052
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	99	17,765
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	58	32,483
7414 - Business & management consultancy	54	13,034
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	49	7,398
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	49	12,072
9999 - Dormant Company	48	20,199
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	36	11,768
99999 - Dormant Company	32	21,846
62090 - Other information technology service activities	31	7,493
7260 - Other computer related activities	28	7,667
69201 - Accounting and auditing activities	22	3,633
9305 - Other service activities	22	9,492
7499 - Non-trading company	19	9,957
74990 - Non-trading company	18	8,929
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	17	8,671
86900 - Other human health activities	12	4,457
4521 - General construction & civil engineering	12	5,558
62012 - Business and domestic software development	11	3,714