

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE: 18 DECEMBER 2001

UNEMPLOYMENT IN EAST AYRSHIRE – OCTOBER 2001

Report by the Director of Development Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to provide an update on unemployment levels as at October 2001 for East Ayrshire and Scotland, and at September 2001 for Wards and Local Committee Areas.

2. UNEMPLOYMENT IN EAST AYRSHIRE

- 2.1** In October 2001, a total of 3,671 people were out of work in East Ayrshire. Male claimants totalled 2,727 and female claimants totalled 944.

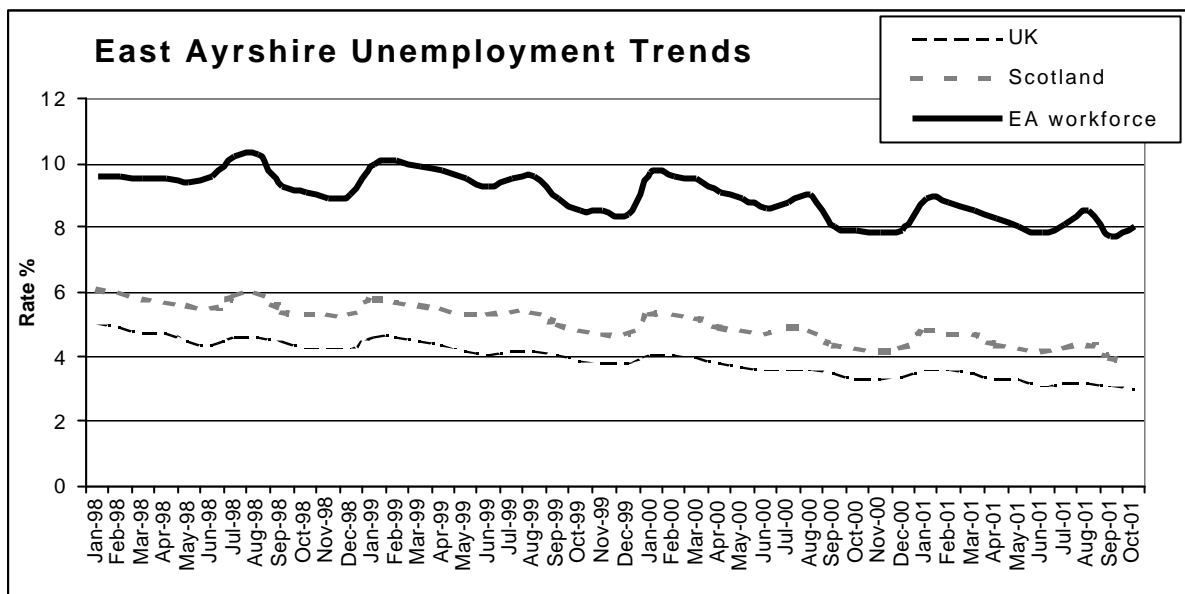
- 2.2** Unemployment in East Ayrshire for the last year compared with Scotland is:

| Month | East Ayrshire | Scotland |
|---------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| October 2001 | 8% | 4% |
| June 2001 | 7.8% | 4.2% |
| February 2001 | 8.8% | 4.7% |
| October 2000 | 7.9% | 4.3% |

3. UNEMPLOYMENT TRENDS

- 3.1** The following table shows unemployment trends in East Ayrshire using the Workforce rate over the past three years. UK and Scottish rates are also shown.

Source: ONS



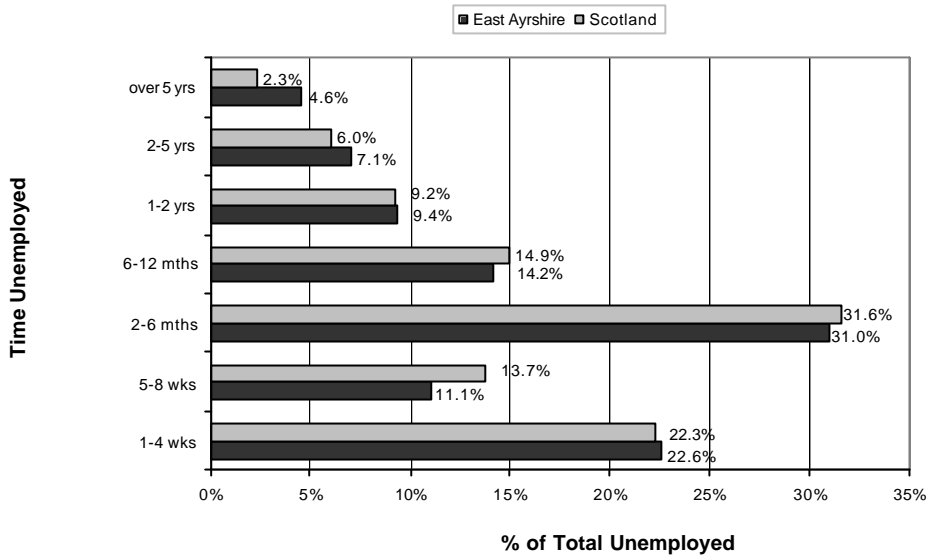
4. UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES FOR EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL WARD AND LOCAL COMMITTEE AREAS

4.1 The Office for National Statistics publishes claimant count figures for 1999 wards. The unemployment rates are calculated using an estimate of economically active persons from the 1998 Voluntary Population Survey. Unemployment rates at September 2001 for Wards and Local Committee Areas are appended to this report.

5. UNEMPLOYMENT BY DURATION

5.1 The following table shows claimant unemployed by duration in East Ayrshire compared with Scotland. As can be seen the largest proportion of unemployed people have been claiming benefit for between 2-6 months. The duration split of East Ayrshire is similar to that of Scotland apart from the "over 5 years" category where twice as many people have been unemployed for this time in East Ayrshire compared with Scotland.

Unemployment by Duration, October 2001



Source: ONS / SLIMS

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no legal implications for the Council.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no personnel implications for the Council.

8. RECOMMENDATION

8.1 It is recommended that the Committee note this report.

Stephen Chorley

Director of Development Services

26 NOVEMBER 2001
(ED/PM)

List of Background Papers Nil

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