

# Scotland Presentation

Rotterdam Think Tank  
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**The Scottish Government**  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba



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# The Politics

- UK Government responsible for Defence, Employment, Welfare, Immigration, Tax, Energy, Trade etc.
- Scottish Government responsible for everything else, incl. Education, Law, Health, Transport
- UK Conservative/Liberal Coalition government
- SNP majority in Scotland; second term
- Desire for greater powers; Scotland Bill; referendum planned for 2014
- Concordat with Local Authorities



# Employability in Scotland

The screenshot shows the website 'employability & tackling poverty'. The main navigation bar includes links for Home, Learning Network, **Employability**, Poverty, Key Themes, How To..., Footnote, and News & Events. A search bar is located in the top right corner.

The page content is organized into a sidebar and a main area. The sidebar on the left lists various resources under the 'Employability' heading, including Delivery Infrastructure, Scottish Employability Forum, National Delivery Group, Health & Employability Delivery Group, Third Sector Employability Forum, Labour Market Statistics, and Local Area Information (Employability Partnerships Lead Contacts).

The main area features an 'Interactive Map' section with the instruction: 'Please click on each area to find a detailed profile, key contact details, information about local employability delivery and case studies for each Local Authority area.' Below this, there are three tabs: 'Local Authority Areas' (selected), 'Jobcentre Plus Districts', and 'NHS Board Areas'. The map displays 32 numbered regions across Scotland, corresponding to the list on the right.

The list of Local Authority Areas is as follows:

1. Aberdeen City
2. Aberdeenshire
3. Angus
4. Argyll & Bute
5. Clackmannanshire
6. Dumfries & Galloway
7. Dundee City
8. East Ayrshire
9. East Dunbartonshire
10. East Lothian
11. East Renfrewshire
12. Edinburgh City of
13. Glen Sier
14. Falkirk
15. Fife
16. Glasgow City
17. Highland
18. Inverclyde
19. Midlothian
20. Moray
21. North Ayrshire
22. North Lanarkshire
23. Orkney Islands
24. Perth & Kinross
25. Renfrewshire
26. Scottish Borders
27. Shetland Islands
28. South Ayrshire
29. South Lanarkshire
30. Stirling
31. West Dunbartonshire
32. West Lothian

At the bottom of the page, there are links for 'Privacy Policy and Content Disclaimer', 'Site Map', and 'Credits', along with the Scottish Government logo.



# Key Principles

- Focus on partnership working at national and local levels
- Combined employability and tackling poverty approach
- Assets-based (what you CAN do; what you already have)
- Early intervention and prevention



# Structure

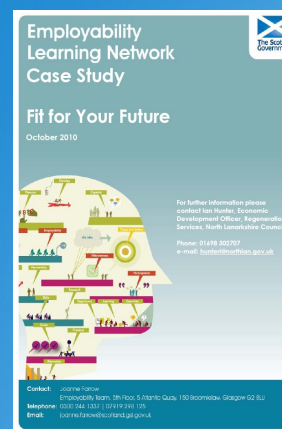
- Scottish Employability Forum provides strategic view
- National Delivery Group identifies and, where possible, solves common problems
- Sub-groups: Rural, Health, Third Sector
- Underpinned by Learning Network for practitioners



# Employability and Tackling Poverty Learning Network

The Learning Network is demand-led and provides:

- a programme of events and training
- a website with toolkits, 'how to' guides, case studies, news items, policy and research
- an online forum
- access to expertise
- access to resources
- regular e-bulletins



# Positives

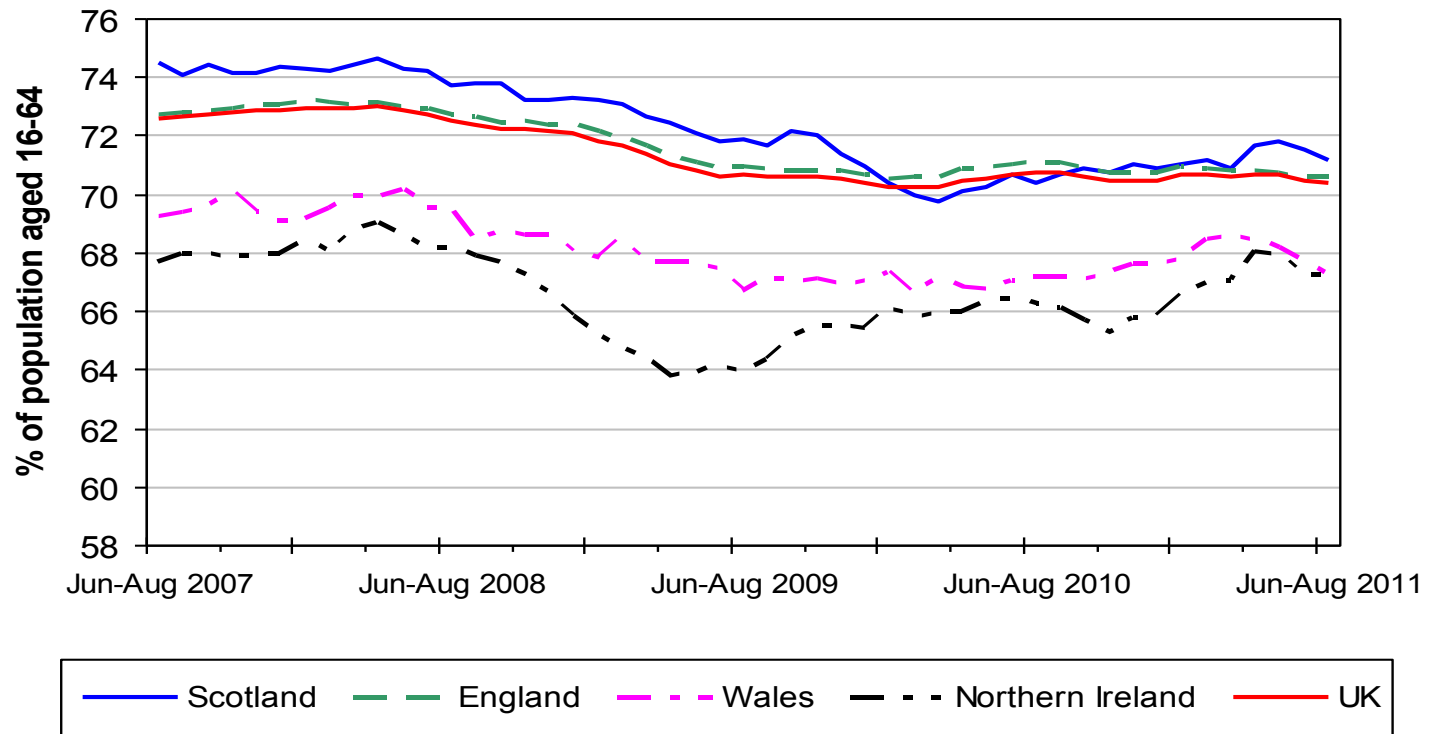
- From initial 7 to all 32 local authorities involved
- More joint planning and funding
- Tracking systems developed
- More sharing of knowledge and good practice in the field
- Broader and better feedback to Scottish Government
- A recovering labour market...





# The Labour Market

## Employment rate (16-64), 2007-2011



# Challenges

- Economic Growth
- Public Sector cutbacks
- UK Welfare Reform agenda
- Specific geographies, e.g. Glasgow (third highest workless household rate in UK; nearly 1 in 3 households)
- Specific groups, e.g. young people (20.7% u/e compared to all working age rate of 7.9%)
- Under-employment
- Health



# Time for a Rethink

Policy refresh will look at:

- Links to economic development (supply and demand)
- The geography of decision-making
- Better alignment of services (for individuals and employers)
- Transitions for young people
- Client engagement and support



# Summary

- NOT having employment policy has led to a greater emphasis on improving the *connections* between services
- However, we face continual challenge of ‘Scottifying’ UK policies and programmes
- And we don’t get any more money for getting more people into work!



# Questions?

[www.employabilityinscotland.com](http://www.employabilityinscotland.com)



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