

CALDERDALE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

QUESTION UNDER RULE 13 OF THE
COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES

Council Meeting: **Wednesday, 23 July 2025**

Question from: **Councillor Veitch**

Question to: **Councillor Courtney, Cabinet Member with
responsibility for Regeneration and Transport**

What are the business survival rates in Calderdale? How does it compare to national levels? Also, I would like you to be a bit more granular as regards Elland. What are the business survival rates in Elland? How can we compare Elland to the rest of Calderdale in this measure?

Response:

Calderdale's economy is diverse and strong. Thriving micro-enterprises and SMEs are at the heart of our economy. Our Inclusive Economy Strategy prioritises increased business innovation, enterprise and investment. We work hard as a Council to support our enterprising communities. Providing support for people to start up a business, and to grow it further means increasing wealth and jobs.

Our business density (the number of businesses per 1,000 population is considerably higher than West Yorkshire and Yorkshire and Humber averages.

Our business survival rates also show the strength of enterprise in the borough. 1, 2, 3 and 4 year survival rates are higher than the English averages.

Business survival rates data is not available at a lower geography level than Calderdale.

Although the number of people in Elland town centre will have an impact on only some businesses, footfall data may be useful as a lens for leisure and retail businesses. Latest data shows a sustained increase in footfall, with June 2025 figures showing a 12% increase on the year to date compared with the previous year. This is particularly positive when across towns in Yorkshire and the North an increase of only 1% has been seen.

Further detail

Using the Office for National Statistics (ONS) latest Business Demography data, the new enterprises survival rates are as follows:

	Calderdale	England average
1 year	95.1	92.4
2 year	71.4	70.3
3 year	59.8	52.8
4 year	45.1	44.9
5 year	32.4	39.4

1, 2 and 5 year business survival rates are measures monitored as part of the Inclusive Economy Strategy and are published on the Inclusive Economy dashboard, on Dataworks (Calderdale’s Open Data platform). [Inclusive Economy Strategy | Calderdale Data Works](#)

We believe that the lower 5 year survival rates reflect the higher number of people who became self employed during covid – starting up a business that they didn’t retain longer term.

3 year business survival rates is one of the Council’s corporate Super Key Performance indicators with progress monitored via the Corporate Performance framework with data published on the Corporate Performance dashboard, on Dataworks.

Football counts – rolling 12 months (Elland)

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
2024-2025	24,137	26,242	25,754	25,285	23,805	23,973	20,387	22,538	24,923	24,631	23,671	25,358
2023-2024	0	0	23,351	21,593	20,665	19,999	18,448	20,033	20,193	21,691	22,556	23,408
Year on Year %	3.4%	21.5%	24.6%	26.4%	29.0%	19.7%	1.0%	3.9%	10.5%	5.2%	4.9%	8.3%

Year on year % is calculated by comparing the 2024-2025 period with the 2023-2024 period i.e the figure for June compares June 2025 to June 2024

NOTE: Questions under Rule 13 must be in writing and submitted to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services by noon the Friday before the Council Meeting.