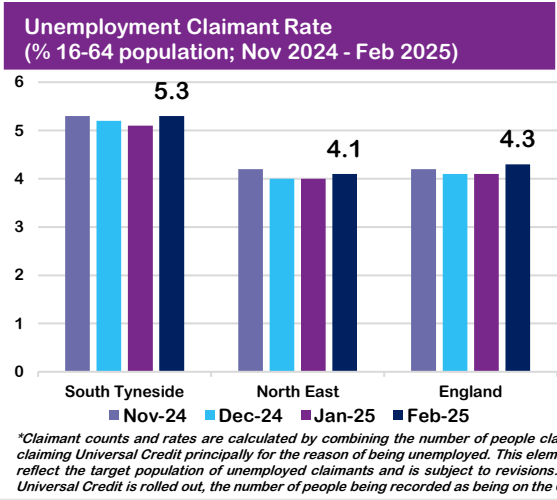
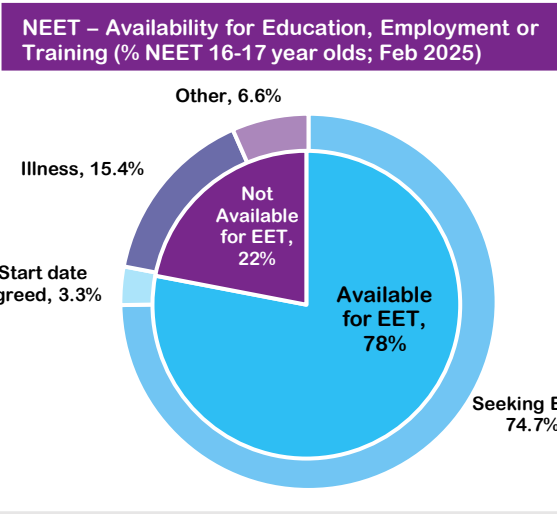
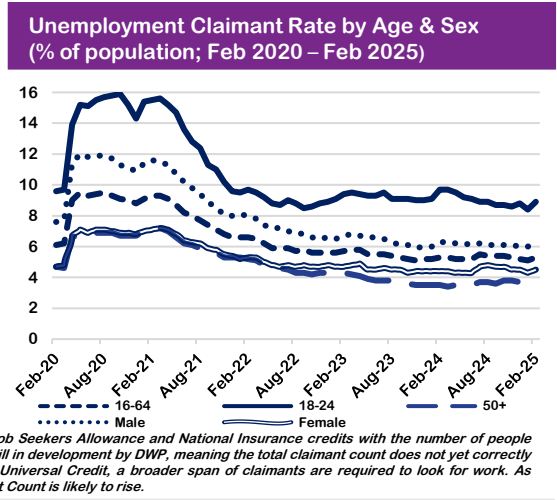
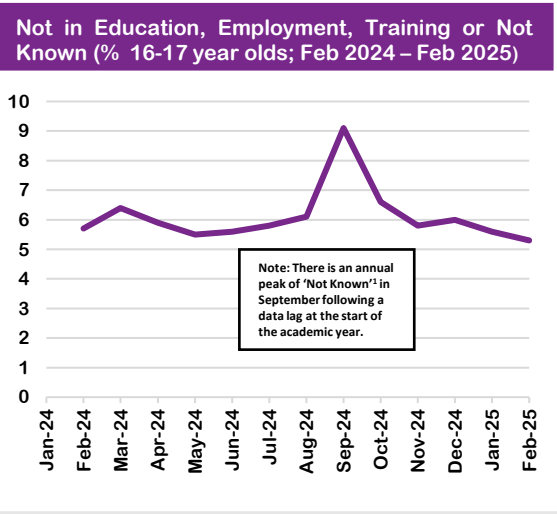


SOUTH TYNESIDE MONTHLY ECONOMIC MONITOR MARCH 2025

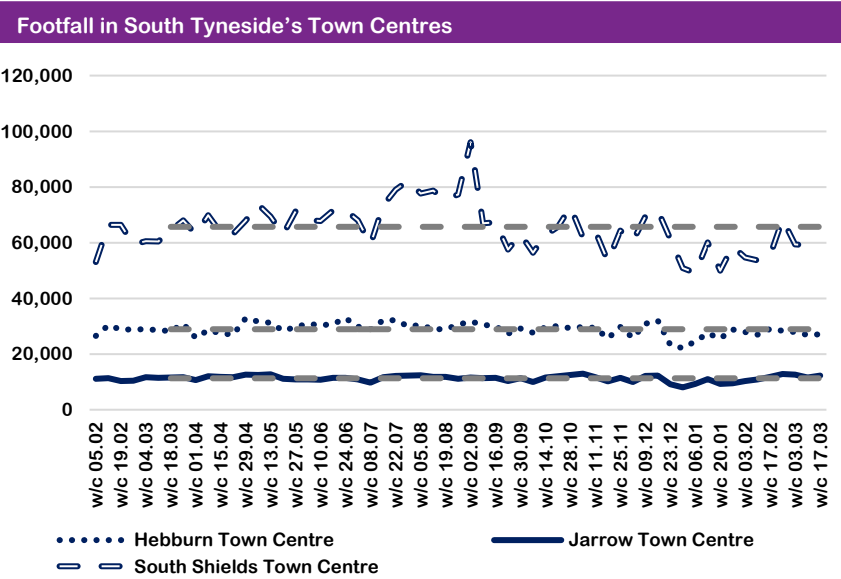
1. In February, South Tyneside's claimant rate was 5.3%, a 0.2pp increase over the previous month (4,800 people 16+).The regional rate rose slightly to 4.1%, while the England-wide increased by 0.2pp to 4.3%. The borough's 18-24 rate increased by 0.5pp in February to 8.9% - the highest rate of all North East local authorities (followed closely by Hartlepool at 8.8%). Meanwhile, South Tyneside's male and female rate both saw small increases of 0.2pp, now at 6.2% and 4.5%, respectively.



2. In February, the percentage of 16-17 year olds NEET or whose activity was not known fell to 5.3% - the lowest rate since February 2022 (4.7%). Just under 8 in 10 (78%) young people were available for employment, education or training last month, a marginal fall from January (80.6%), with a 2pp increase in the proportion of young people not available for EET due to illness, and a marginal rise in young people not available for EET for other reasons.

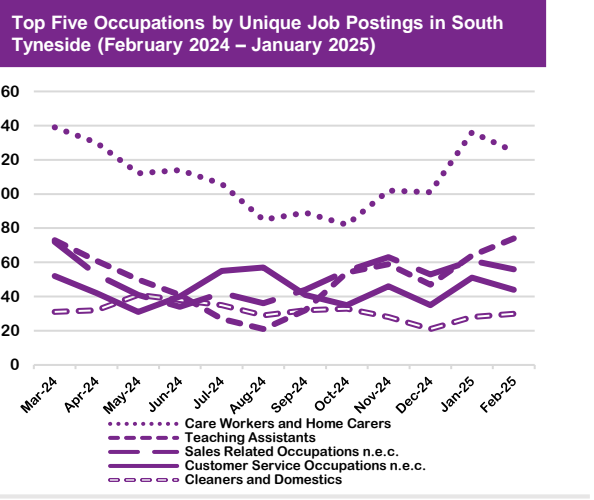
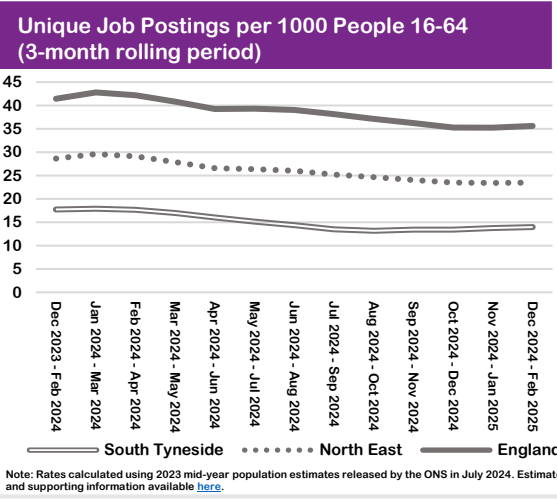


3. Compared to February 2024, footfall in February 2025 was 5.3% lower in South Shields, 2% lower in Hebburn and 6.3% higher in Jarrow. South Shields based crafting supplies company **Katy Sue Designs** has acquired the Cosmic Shimmer brand and Red Rubber Stamp production from Creative Expressions and is transferring production to South Tyneside, creating more local jobs.

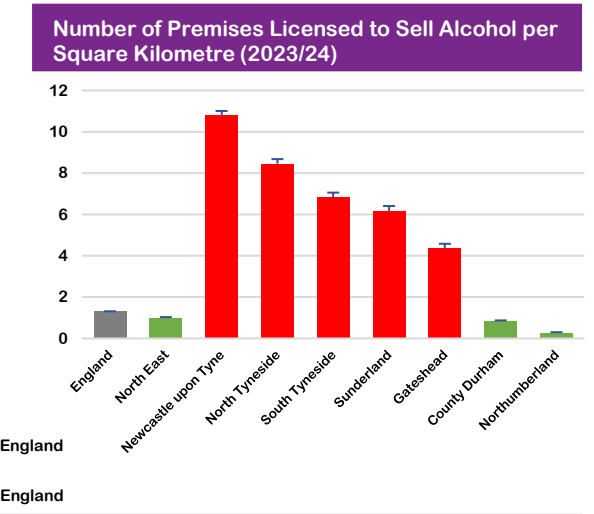
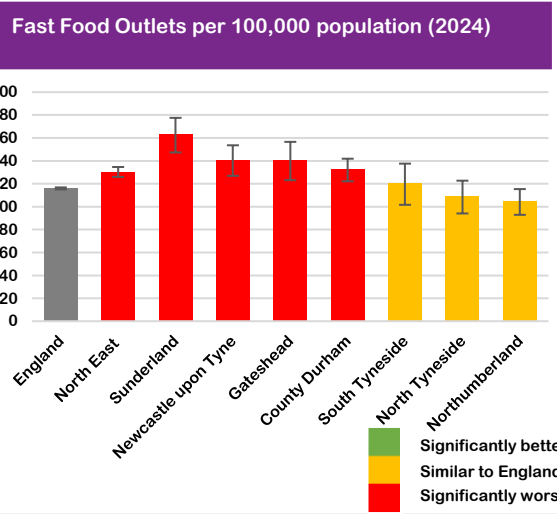


This month, the **Port of Tyne** announced the purchase of its first fully electric foiling pilot vessel which will be used to transport pilots onto goods and cargo ships, whilst [a new report from the IPPR](#) has argued that the **North of England is very well placed to develop sectors with high green potential**. South Shields-based Metec UK has secured two contracts worth more than £4.5m which will enable the creation of 8 new jobs as well as 10 work placements via its partnership with South Tyneside College. The Centre for Aging Better's [State of Aging 2025 report](#) has found the **North East to have the lowest proportion of older people in work in England**; it found the gap between employment rates of people aged 35 to 49 and people aged 50 to 65 to be 19.8%. More optimistically however, PwC's [Women in Work Index 2025](#) ranked the **North East 4th for female workplace equality** thanks to "much better female participation, lower unemployment, and wage gap improvements". And as for awards, **Jarrow's The Lash Studio North East has been nominated for the 'Best Lash Technicians of the Year' award** at The Nations Nail, Brow and Lashes Awards 2025.

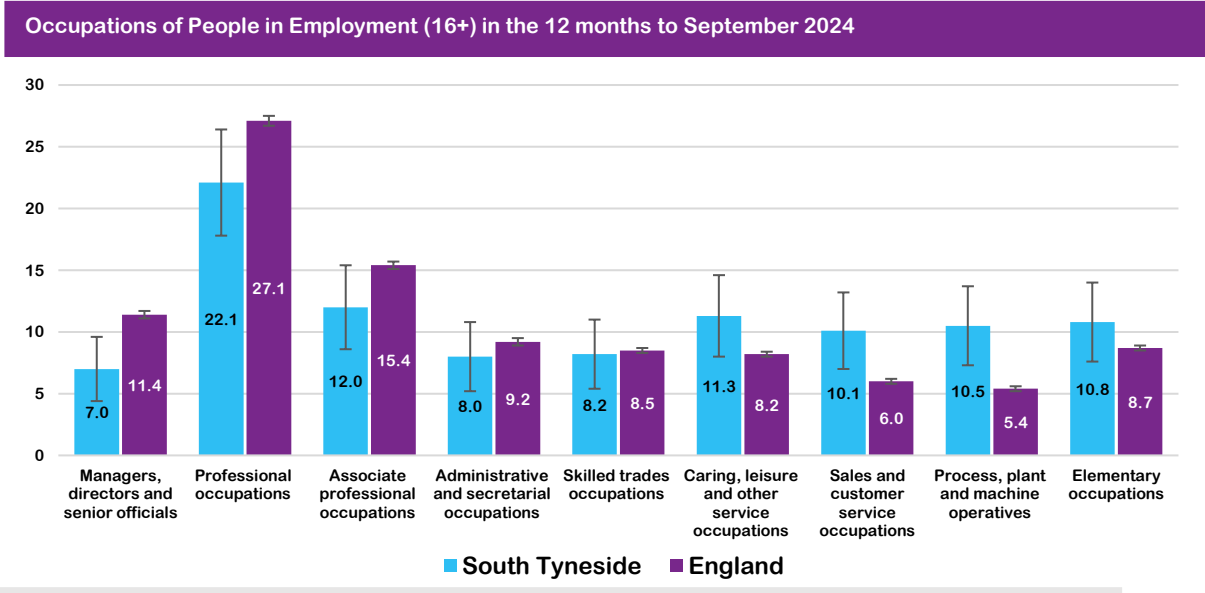
4. In the three-month rolling period ending February 2025, there were an average of 14.0 vacancies per 1000 people aged 16-64 in South Tyneside. This is substantially lower than the regional and national figures of 23.5 and 35.6, respectively. Of the top five occupations advertised in the 12 months to February 2025, 'teaching assistants' was the only occupation to see vacancies increase between the start and end of the period, while 'care workers and home carers' remained the largest vacancy area across the period.



5. In 2024, there were 120.6 fast food outlets per 100,000 people in South Tyneside. This is similar to the North East (130.4) and England wide averages (115.9) as well as all North East CA local authorities (except Sunderland.) South Tyneside had 6.8 premises licensed to sell alcohol per square kilometer in 2023/24. This is significantly higher than the England-wide (1.3) and North East (1) figures, but significantly lower than Newcastle (10.8) and North Tyneside (8.5).



6. In the 12 months to September 2024, just over 1 in 5 people in employment (16+) in South Tyneside were in professional occupations and 7% were managers, directors and senior officials, significantly lower than the England-wide proportions of 27.1% and 11.4%, respectively. Compared to England, South Tyneside has a significantly higher proportion of people in employment working within sales and customer service occupations and as process, plant and machine operatives.



Data Sources: [HOMIS](#) (unemployment claimant rate, occupations of people in employment), internally available data (town centre footfall, vacancies, NEET), [Fingerlips](#) (fast food outlets and number of premises licensed to sell alcohol).

1. The lines shown on the graphs in Sections 5 and 6 are 95% Confidence Intervals and indicate the range of values in which we would expect the value to fall 95% of the time. For example, in section 5, if the population was counted 100 times across 2024, 95 of those times, we could expect the resulting rate of fast food outlets per 100,000 people to fall between 103.6 – 139.5. When comparing values, if the confidence intervals of data points overlap, we cannot be sure that there is a significant difference (higher or lower) between values we are comparing. You can learn more about common statistical concepts [here](#).

