



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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UNEMPLOYMENT FALLS IN HAMPSHIRE

The number of people unemployed in Hampshire fell by over 2,500 to 15,813 in the three months to June (2.0%). The figures are part of the monthly employment data, published by the Office for National Statistics, which indicate that overall unemployment in Hampshire has fallen for the fifth month in a row.

However, the national trend is that part-time workers are on the rise (increased by 148,000 in the three months to May to hit 7.82 million). This is the highest level since records began in 1992. The rise in part-timers is the main reason why unemployment has fallen.

Commenting on the figures, Gill Edinburgh, Deputy Chief Executive at North Hampshire Enterprise, said:

“These figures are better than expected, with a continual fall in overall unemployment in Hampshire. However, there is no room for complacency with a rise in part-time workers nationally either because they can’t find a full-time job or they have taken a cut in the number of days they work. The main fear is that once the Government starts to cut public sector jobs, unemployment could start rising again. The recession may be over but its effects will be felt for many months to come.”

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Notes to Editors:

1. North Hampshire Enterprise is the chamber of commerce for **the Basingstoke and Deane, Hart, Rushmoor, Winchester and Test Valley areas**. Accredited by the British Chambers of Commerce it exists to help Hampshire businesses prosper and develop by providing expert business help and advice. As a membership organization it is owned by and accountable to the local business community. Visit www.northhampshireenterprise.co.uk
2. Claimant Count with rates and proportions for North Hampshire from January to June 2010 are given below (Source ONS). Rate is proportion of resident working age population estimates.

Area	January 2010		February 2010		March 2010		April 2010		May 2010		June 2010	
	number	rate	number	rate	number	rate	number	rate	number	rate	number	rate
Hampshire	20,722	2.7	20,011	2.6	19,111	2.5	18,374	2.4	17,264	2.2	15,813	2.0
Basingstoke and Deane	2,949	2.9	2,974	2.9	2,966	2.9	2,799	2.7	2,705	2.6	2,473	2.4
Hart	1,049	1.9	1,032	1.8	974	1.7	895	1.6	823	1.5	762	1.4
Rushmoor	1,961	3.4	1,880	3.2	1,763	3.0	1,693	2.9	1,615	2.8	1,497	2.6
Test Valley	1,484	2.1	1,393	2.0	1,315	1.9	1,240	1.8	1,198	1.7	1,115	1.6
Winchester	1,283	1.9	1,240	1.8	1,177	1.7	1,118	1.7	1,051	1.6	933	1.4