

# **Delivering Sustainable Economic Growth in Scotland**

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 **The Scottish Government**

# The Scottish Economy

- Population 5,254,800
- Employment Rate (16-64) 71.4%
- Size of the Economy (2011)
  - Without oil £124bn
  - With geographical share of oil £152bn

• **With inclusion of Scotland's geographic share of oil, the size of the Scottish economy increases by over 20%.**

• **Scotland is around 8-10% of the size of the UK economy.**

# Policy Responsibilities

- **Full Responsibility:** Education, Transport, Health, Justice, Local Government, Social Work, Housing, Forestry.
- **Joint Responsibility:** Energy, Environment, Agriculture and Fisheries, Culture and Sport.
- **Economic Levers:** Local Taxation, Skills and Training, Inward Investment, Economic Development, Grant Support, Export Promotion, Tourism, Planning.



The Government  
Economic Strategy

# ***Government Economic Strategy:***

[www.scotland.gov.uk/ges](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/ges)

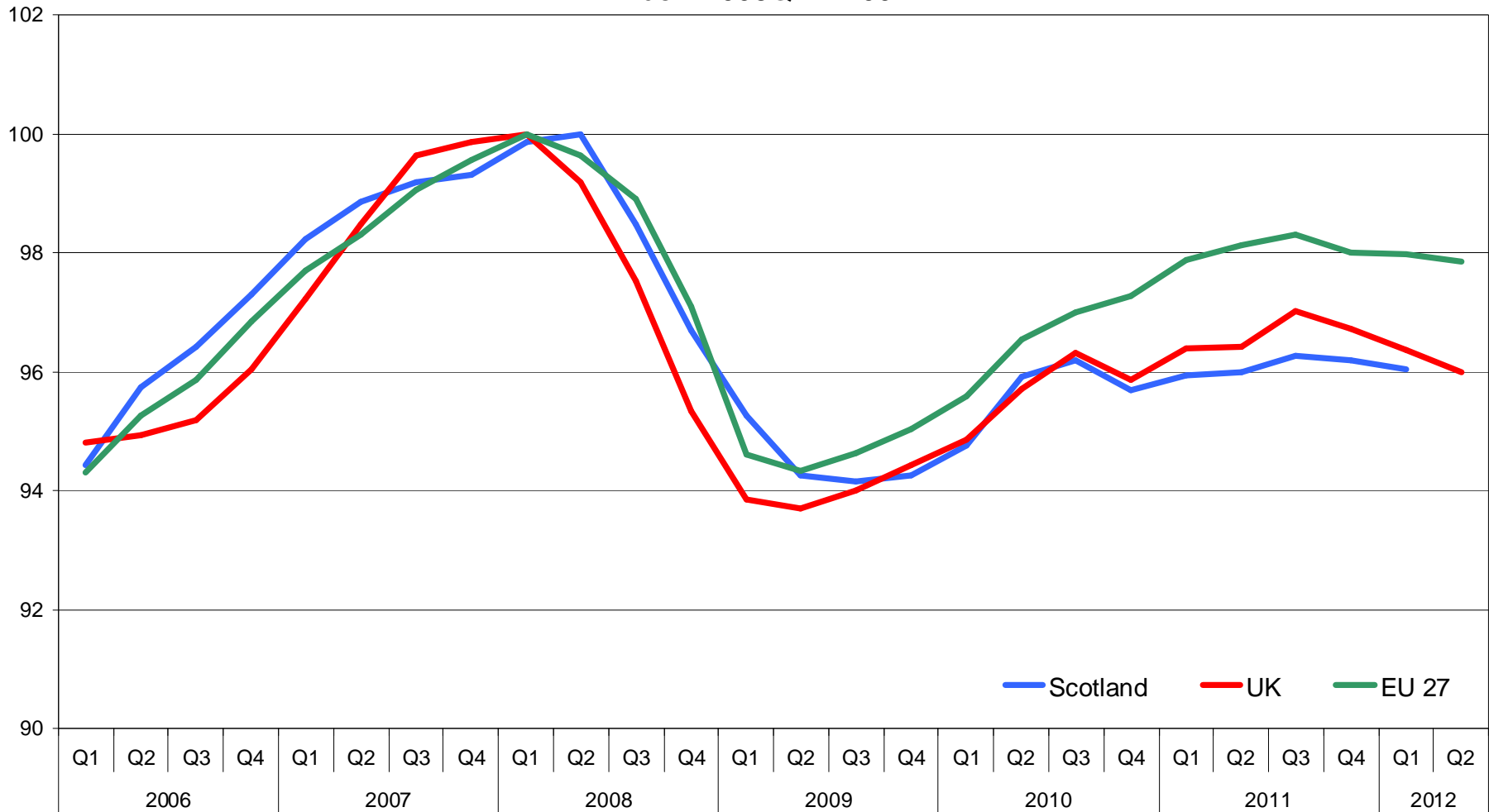


 **The Scottish Government**

# Economic Performance

## Quarterly GDP Index for Scotland, UK and the EU 27

Index: 2006Q1 = 100



# Boosting Capital Investment

- £105 million **Economic Stimulus Package**;
- Switching over £700 million **from resource budgets to support capital spending**;
- Continuing to progress the **£2.5 billion NPD pipeline of investment**; and
- Supporting **a range of innovative finance initiatives**, such as the *National Housing Trust*.

# Supporting Youth Employment

- Dedicated **Minister for Youth Employment** role established in December 2011 and **Youth Employment Strategy**
  - Supported by an additional £30 million budget
- Supporting 25,000 **Modern Apprenticeships** in each year of the current Parliament
- ***Opportunities for All*** (16-19 year olds)
- **Refocusing Structural Funds** to support youth employment
- **New employer initiative** to create up to 10,000 opportunities for SMEs to recruit young people;

# Enhancing Economic Confidence

- Action to encourage private sector investment and growth:
  - **rates relief package for businesses;**
  - **Additional Enterprise Area incentives**
  - Building on **strong inward investment record**
- Providing confidence and security to households:
  - Continuing with the **Council Tax Freeze**; and
  - Implementing core economic and social commitments through the **social wage**.
  - Continuing with **‘no-compulsory redundancies’** policy;



# Independence Referendum

- **Reserved Economic Levers:** Fiscal and Monetary Policy, EU Relations, International Trade and Currency, Consumer Protection, Competition Law, Employment Law, Industry Regulation.
- The Scottish Government will hold a referendum on Independence in the autumn of 2014.
  - more than 26,000 responses to the recent consultation on the referendum.