DATA ANNEX

The labour market score combines decade averages for real wage growth and the level of unemployment (inverted so that a low figure scores highly). The basic decade averages for both measures are shown on the charts below. (For 2019 OBR forecasts are used.)



The standard way of combining two measures with different units is by normalisation. An adjustment is made to each observation for the average and spread (standard deviation) of the series, so that the normalised measures each add to zero and have the same spread – as the below chart shows; NB the unemployment sign is reversed here (so that the highest readings are when unemployment is lowest).



These series are then added together to give the overall score on figures 1 & 2 in the main text.

The union density comes from the <u>Trade union membership statistics 2018</u>, tables 1.1 and 1.2b, published by Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). For years ahead of 1989, Bank of England employment figures are used to calculate the ratio. The figures ahead of the 1890s, are projected from an imagined zero in the 1800s.