










Council Priority: GROWTH

Maximising regeneration and economic growth

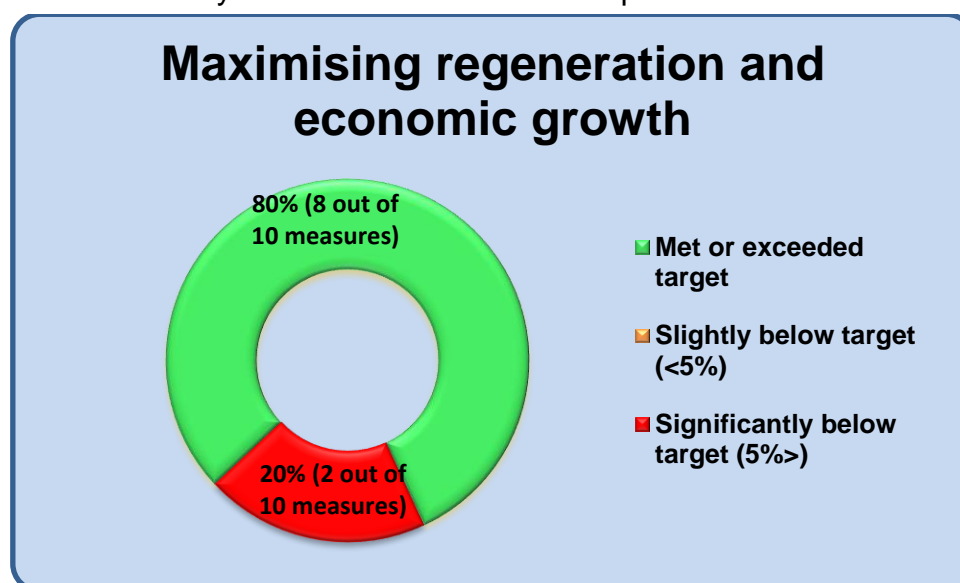
Performance: Quarter 3 2019/20

Key

 Significantly below target (>5%)	 Slightly below target (<5%)	 met or exceeded target	
 improved	 worsened	 static	
 data only, no target	N/A – data not available	Short – since last qtr.	Long – avg last 4 qtrs.
Benchmarking – compares favourably with national performance or standards	 Yes compares favourably	 No does not compare favourably	= similar performance

Council Plan measures: summary performance













There are 12 Council Plan measures for this priority. We are reporting on 10 this quarter as 1 is data only and 1 is not available this quarter.















Improved performance

- 40% (4 out of 10) improved long term (average of previous 4 quarters)
- 40% (4 out of 10) improved over the short term (since last quarter)







Measures in target (green)

Code	Status	Name	Long Term	Short Term
ECD13		% of square footage let at Innovation Centre Medway (ICM)		
ECD20		% of square footage let in council owned business units		
LRCC4a		Number of jobs created and safeguarded (cumulative)		
MAE 3		Achievement rate (pass rate)		




Appendix 2

Code	Status	Name	Long Term	Short Term
NI 156		Number of households living in temporary accommodation		
HC3		No. of households with dependent children in B&B who have resided there for 6+ weeks at the end of the quarter		
MAE 2		% Retention rate		
NI 117(16-17)		The percentage of 16-17 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)		

Measures significantly below target (red)

Code	Status	Name	Long Term	Short Term
HC4		Number of private sector properties improved as a result of the Council's intervention		
NI 154		Net additional homes provided		

Data only

Code	Status	Name	Long Term	Short Term
GVAPJM		GVA per job		

Data not available

Code	Status	Name	Long Term	Short Term
NI 167 NEW	N/A	Average journey time along 5 routes across Medway (mins per mile).	N/A	N/A

Benchmarking/ Achieve National Standards

	Council Plan Performance Measure - Compares favourably with national performance or standards?	Yes No Same	✓ * =
MAE2 & MAE3	Attainment rate & Achievement rate MAE rated good by Ofsted	✓	
NI 156	Number of households living in temporary accommodation rate of households in temporary accommodation	✓	

Strategic Risks

The quarter 3 strategic risk register is attached at Appendix 5. The register shows all strategic risks together with mitigation in place to minimise impact and likelihood. The risks pertaining solely to this council priority are shown below (full details in Appendix 5).

Reference	Risk Register Page (App 5)	Risk	Owner	Current residual risk score	Definition (current score) (L-likelihood) (I-impact)
SR17	11	Delivering regeneration	Director of RCET	DII	L - low I - critical
SR35	39	Homelessness	AD Physical and Cultural Regeneration	DII	L - low I - critical





The following risks pertain to all priorities:

Reference	Risk Register Page (app 5)	Risk	Owner	Current residual risk score	Definition (current score) (L-likelihood) (I-impact)
SR02	3	Business continuity and emergency planning	Director of RCET	DII	L - low I - critical
SRO3B	5	Finances	Chief Finance Officer	AI	L – very high I - catastrophic
SR21	15	Procurement savings – capacity and delivery	Chief Legal Officer	DII	L - low I - critical
SR32	29	Data and information	Chief Legal Officer	CII	L - significant I - critical
SR33	31	Impact of welfare reform	Chief Finance Officer	EIII	L –very low I - marginal
SR34	35	Successful delivery of the corporate transformation programme	Chief Finance Officer	EIII	L – very low I - critical
SR36	42	Alternative service delivery models	Chief Legal Officer, Director of RCET	BIII	L - high I - Marginal
SR37	45	Cyber Security	Chief Finance Officer	CI	L - Significant I - Catastrophic

Council Plan Outcome: A strong diversified community

Programme: Business investment

Council Plan Measures: Performance





ECD13		% of square footage let at Innovation Centre Medway (ICM)						Aim to Maximise			
	Value		Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend		Value	Target	Status
Q2 19/20	98.5%	Q3 19/20	97.31%	90%				19/20	97.31	90%	

Comments

There are 3 vacant offices, two small ones totalling 244.91 sq. ft. and one small medium office of 235 sq. ft. Overall occupation is still well ahead of the 90% target.

Action

A restructuring of the 'My desk' office moving the tenants to alternative office sizes was underway from January. The My Desk office was a highly sought-after size and this enables expansion of an existing tenant instead of losing them. It also enables a recalibration of the My Desk office space/cost relativity to a more sustainable level. Post this change one medium and one small office will be available to let.

ECD20		% of square footage let in council owned business units						Aim to Maximise			
	Value		Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend		Value	Target	Status
Q2 19/20	91.94 %	Q3 19/20	90.67%	90%				19/20	90.67 %	90%	

Comments

Overall the properties are ahead of their 90% occupation target, although slightly down on Q2.

There are 11 vacant units of the 123 available to let. This results in total floor space let of 39,009.30 sq. ft. from the possible 43024.02 sq. ft. available to let.

Hopewell has 8,365 sq. ft. let from the total available to let of 11,318 sq. ft. with 16 of the 22 units let. Hopewell continues to have the most difficult rental opportunities due to the unpopular backward facing nature of some of the units with 2 remaining as longer-term unlet totalling 919 sq. ft. The remaining tenancies are either under offer or recent vacancies.

The Innovation Centre Medway and Innovation Studio Medway sites continue to perform well with 68 of the 72 tenancies let. This totalling a let number of

20,174.30 sq. ft. of the 20,786.04 sq. ft. available to let. All 4 vacant tenancies are recent. There is a meeting scheduled with the social media team to explore incremental promotion opportunities now the Christmas period has passed.

Note that 9 of the 18 storage containers at the Innovation Studio Medway site are let this is one less than the previous period.

Pier Road continues to perform well with 28 of the possible 29 units let equating to 10,470m sq. ft. let out of the 10.920 sq. ft. available to rent.

GVAPJ M	GVA per job		Aim to Maximise
	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018
£50,415	£51,465	£52,464	LONG TREND (5yr) ↑

Comments

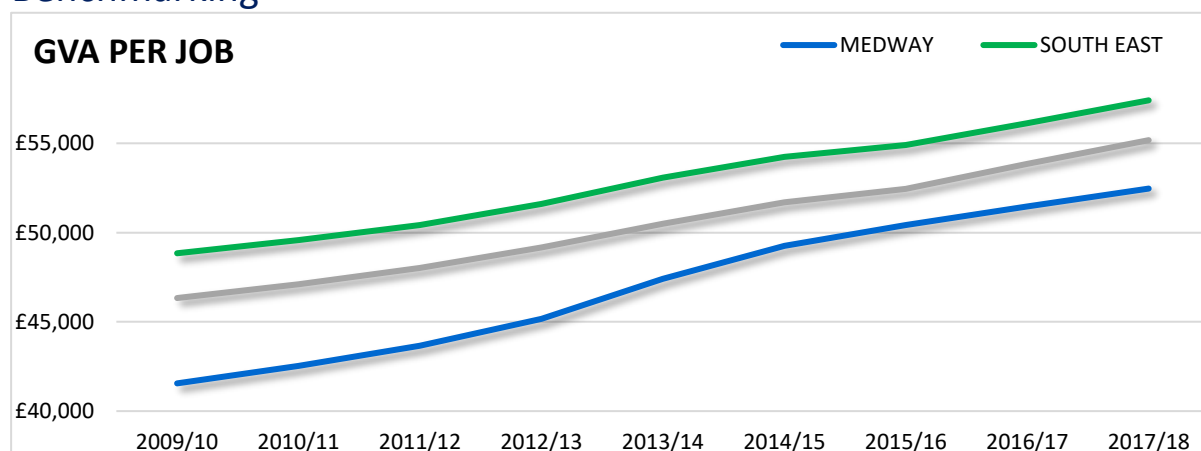
This data is published by the Office of National Statistics and is released in December each year. Data is available up to 2017/18.

Given the volatility with the raw data and because the smoothed data is weighted, year on year comparisons should not be made. GVA per filled job is better considered over a longer period. Trends over a longer period are less likely to be the result of the volatility around any single year estimate and are more likely to be showing a change in the economic performance of Medway.

Actions

Medway GVA per job is currently 4.9% lower than England, a 5.4 percentage point improvement from 2009 where Medway was 10.3% lower. From 2012 to 2017, Medway's GVA per job has increased by 16.2%, which is above England (12.2%), South East (11.2%).

Benchmarking



Council Plan Project - Development of Innovation Park Medway

Innovation Park Medway is a significant redevelopment opportunity and has a vital role to play in Medway's economic future. A masterplan has been adopted (subject to Highways England response) to set the context for the development of up to 101,000sqm of high quality, innovative B1 and B2 commercial development in the high value technology, engineering, manufacturing and knowledge intensive industries. Medway Council and Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council have each drafted a Local Development Order (LDO), which will offer a fast-tracked planning approvals process within 28 days, if adopted. Supported by a Design Code, Environmental Statement and self-certification form, the LDO simplifies the planning requirements for future occupants.

Part of the North Kent Enterprise Zone, Enterprise Zone status runs until March 2022 and offers incentives such as business rates discounts to occupants. Medway Council has secured significant funding via the Government's Local Growth Fund (LGF) and Growing Places Fund (GPF).

Officers are pushing for a response from Highways England regarding impacts of the Innovation Park Medway on the strategic network and potential mitigation requirements. This is required prior to adoption of the Local Development Order (LDO). Discussion is ongoing with Natural England regarding their LDO consultation comments.

The programme for the LGF2 and LGF3 work has been reviewed in order to allow maximum opportunity for businesses to take advantage of Enterprise Zone status. Start onsite for LGF2 works will commence over the next quarter.

A Delivery and Investment Plan has been adopted by Cabinet and Council, including agreement to fund a £14.5m first capital project; the six-storey landmark building. The Delivery and Investment Plan sets out the recommended approach to site development, selection of future occupants, funding required and delivery investment strategy.

Design of the site access infrastructure and public realm is ongoing in order to deliver the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) funded LGF3 scheme to programme, as well as council funded works.

An additional tender opportunity is currently live, seeking an appropriately qualified consultancy or consultancy partnership to develop the business case, including demand analysis, for the six-storey building.

Project - Dissemination and implementation of Medway 2035

Medway 2035 continues to be promoted in stakeholder meetings and referenced as a major supporting document for external investment bids (e.g. the Future High Streets Fund, and Heritage High Streets Action Zone bids). It underpins Medway's contributions to the Local Industrial Strategy (being developed by SELEP, with the support of Local Authorities) and the Kent and Medway Enterprise and Productivity Strategy (being led by KCC, with Medway Council as steering group member).

Hard copies were taken to the Kent Construction Expo in October and remain a popular draw and discussion point.

A new print run will be considered in 20/21, as only a handful of hard copies remain.




Project - Support the delivery of 1,200sqm of commercial development at Rochester Riverside

The Rochester Plaza opened as planned in October 2019 where a number of milestones were celebrated. The Co-op opening was brought forward to December 2019/January 2020 and Costa Coffee in Q1 2020.

Council Plan Outcome: Resident with jobs and skills

Programme: Jobs, Skill and Employability

Council Plan Measures: Performance

NI 117(16-17)		The percentage of 16-17 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)					Aim to Minimise
	Value		Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q2 2019/20	2.4%	Q3 2019/20	2.70%	5.2%			

Comments

Data is available to November 2019

The rate of NEET 16 and 17 year olds is 2.7%. this represents 180 young people.

Due to the cyclical nature of this measure comparisons are made to the position 12 months ago rather than from quarter to quarter.

In November 2018 2.5% of 16 and 17 year olds, 162 individuals, were NEET. Year on year there has been an 11% deterioration in the number of Young people who are NEET.

The rate of NEET must be looked at in the conjunction with the number of 16 and 17 year olds whose activity is not known. Currently this is 10% which represents 629 individuals. In November 2018 there were 478 children whose activity was unknown this was 7.5%. As such there has been 33% worsening of this statistic.

Medway's not known figure is significantly higher than the National and South East averages and the figure recorded in the same time period of the preceding year. A number of factors have influenced this including the impact of the recruitment moratorium leading to understaffing during the destination gathering period, the decision not to send "chasing letters" to clients, so as to save money and difficulties with the quality and timeliness of data shared from schools/colleges. Most

importantly, in Medway there is currently a crisis in training provisions. Many of the training providers were funded by the European Social Fund (ESF) and since the threat of Brexit have folded. This has led to a reduction in providers from 12 to 2 resulting in a reduction of 140 places that would have previously been available to young people post 16. Nacro and Mid Kent College are now the only options available to young people not continuing at school or going into employment. This has had and will continue to have an impact on the NEET figures moving forward in this academic year.

The IAG team have been working to reduce the level of not knowns. The November outturn is a 76% reduction on the October result.

There is currently a crisis in training provisions within Medway. Many of the training providers were funded by the European Social Fund (ESF) and since the threat of Brexit have folded, this has led to a reduction in providers from 12 to 3 since 2018 resulting in a reduction of 140 places that would have previously been available to young people post 16.





Benchmarking

Nationally, in November 2.4 % of 16 and 17 year olds are NEET. In the south east this is 2.0%

Nationally the unknown activity rate is 5.6% and 7.9% in the South East

Actions

The work that has driven an improved performance in reducing the level of young people whose activity is unknown continues. The Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) team are actively engaged with local schools and colleges to share information. However, the continued lack of resource within the IAG team and the dramatic collapse of the numbers of training provisions will likely lead higher numbers of NEET and not knowns in the coming months.

LRCC4a		Number of jobs created and safeguarded (cumulative)						Aim to Maximise			
	Value	Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend		Value	Target	Status	
Q2 19/20	407	Q3 19/20	420	225				19/20	420	225	

Comments

In Q3, 13 jobs were created and protected, from new tenancies at Council owned managed workspaces. This figure is lower than expected because much of the last quarter our inward investment services provider has concentrated on the finalisation of the European funded project which has supported our contract with them. Although this quarter is low, overall the yearly figure is above target.

Action

The Council is continuing to promote a number of avenues to make Medway an attractive place to do business. These include:

- Partnering with Kent County Council to re-procure our joint inward investment services contract (effective August 2020), and in an extension request for the ESIF-funded inward investment project administered by Locate in Kent, 'Foreign Inward Investment Kent, Medway and East Sussex' – FIIKMES).
- A loans and grants scheme (Partners for Growth) – six start-up grants have been awarded so far in 19/20.
- Attendance at promotional events – Officers staffed a stand the Kent Construction Expo in October, and the AD Physical and Cultural Regeneration hosted a presentation session. We are preparing an inaugural business conference for spring 2020.
- An ongoing business support contract with the Chamber of Commerce – 352 'intensive assists' (attendances at business planning workshops, or one-to-one business advice sessions) have been delivered in the financial year to date.

In addition, Q3 saw Medway Council awarded an additional £50K development grant (bringing the total to £150K) to progress the business case for our c. £14m Future High Streets Fund bid for Chatham High Street, which will be submitted in April 2020. We have been awarded up to £1.6m Heritage High Street Action Zone funding for Chatham Intra (subject to a three-month co-development process with Historic England).

The quarter also saw the soft launch of Medway for Business, our new economic partnership, at the October business lunch, and a networking event in November. The first formal meeting of the partnership will be on 30 January 2020. The Medway for Business website, developed completely in-house by the ED and Digital teams, is now live, and receiving positive feedback.

MAE 2		% Retention rate						Aim to Maximise			
	Value		Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend		Value	Target	Status
Q4 18/19	94.53 %	Q1 19/20	95.19%	94%				19/20	95.19 %	94%	

Comment

This PI is based on academic year rather than financial year.





Data as at 20 November 2019 for Q1 of Academic year 19/20 (August - October 2019). Data extracted from EBS.

Retention measures the number of learners who start a course with MAE and, are either continuing with their learning or have completed. Retention continues to meet, and indeed exceed, the challenging target of 94% and this demonstrates that MAE's courses meet the aspirational, social and well-being needs of our learners. The overall retention rate also reflects the rigorous monitoring of attendance by

tutors and curriculum staff, and improved rigour in the Initial Assessment process (ensuring learners are placed on correct course for them).

Action

Medway Adult Education's approach to improving performance is one of continuous improvement through a range of quality measures including monthly quality review meetings scrutinising KPIs, observations of teaching and learning, learner and partner evaluations, self-assessment reviews and quality improvement plans at Service and Programme level. These measures ensure the Service's overall good KPI rates are maintained as evidenced by high retention and learner satisfaction rates

MAE 3		Achievement rate (pass rate)						Aim to Maximise			
	Value		Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend		Value	Target	Status
Q4 18/19	98.01 %	Q1 19/20	99.78%	96%				19/20	99.78 %	96%	

Comments

This PI is based on academic year rather than financial year.

Data as at 20 November 2019 for Q1 of Academic year 19/20 (August - October 2019). Data extracted from EBS.

The pass rate measures how many of the learners, who complete their course, achieve a qualification or their learning aim. It shows that Medway Adult Education learners continue to achieve very high pass rates and demonstrates the excellent processes in place to support learners achieve their qualifications, or to achieve their learning outcomes in non-accredited provision (RARPA).

Action

Medway Adult Education's approach to improving performance is one of continuous improvement through a range of quality measures including monthly quality review meetings scrutinising KPIs, observations of teaching and learning, learner and partner evaluations, performance and development reviews, self-assessment reviews and quality improvement plans at Service and Programme level. These ensure the Service's overall excellent KPI rates are maintained. Medway Adult Education has maintained its Information, Advice and Guidance Matrix kite mark, and monitors the effectiveness of assessment processes, ensuring learner needs are met through differentiation, and additional learning support if required, enabling learners to reach their goals and is evidenced in the good pass and achievement rates and high learner satisfaction.

Council Plan Project - Medway Adult Education (MAE) learning programme to boost local skills levels for those furthest from employment

The Workskills programme area which targets employability skills and provides qualifications for learners who are unemployed, in receipt of benefits or who are wanting to improve their current employment prospects or progress in work has a

refreshed offer. This remains a challenging area of work due to the introduction of Universal Credit, Employ Medway closing and the lower number of referrals from JCP locally. The introduction of shorter introduction course has proved successful and the offer also includes entry level courses to provide a better stepping stone progression route for learners who are unskilled or have no or very low levels of qualification.

Thorough initial assessment of unemployed learners is undertaken to review their learning needs. This assessment has resulted in an increase of learners being referred to English and maths courses. In 18/19 academic year overall achievement rates for English and maths were above the national benchmarks (MAE 89.8% National 86.4%). This has helped these learners progress well and where appropriate take qualifications. This approach will continue in 19/20.

Council Plan Project - Establish and support Medway Skills Board and all age skills development programme

Providing people with the skills they need to be able to make a positive contribution to all levels of Medway's economic future is critical to delivering economic growth. Medway will need a pool of skilled and employable staff to ensure the long-term growth of high economic value contributors, such as the businesses likely to locate at the Innovation Park Medway. As Medway Council encourages existing businesses to grow and new businesses to move to Medway, it is vital that there is a suitable workforce ready to meet business need.

In order to do this effectively, two Medway Skills Boards have been established. An Officers Skills and Employability Board first met in August 2017 to begin defining emerging skills priorities, which were then discussed at the first Members Skills and Employability Board in November 2017. Since then the Members Board has become the Medway Skills Partnership Board and has been established as a Cabinet Advisory Group. The group has overseen the development of the Skills and Employability Plan for Medway and will oversee the action plan delivery. The Skills Development Programme continues to progress well. The Enterprise Coordinator work is ahead of schedule, with all but one school signed up and interest from 12 Enterprise Advisers (businesses) who will be checked for suitability and matched with a relevant school.

The first Skills & Employability Summit held on 30 October 2019 was a very successful event, with over 130 people attending. Feedback was very positive, with a range of high-quality speakers and engaging workshops. Feedback will also be used to make future events even more successful.

The Enterprise Coordinator programme has grown further, with 20 Enterprise Advisers signed up to the programme and 15 of them matched to schools. The first Enterprise Adviser networking meeting has taken place and was very positive.

The National Skills Academy for Rail have been appointed as the Medway Apprenticeship Advice Service and delivery will commence in April. This will provide support to Medway businesses looking to take on an apprentice.

The Skills Stakeholder board is nearly ready to launch, with two businesses to be identified and a chair to be confirmed. It is planned for the board to commence before the end of January.

£100,000 has been secured to run a Supported Employment pilot, helping people with learning disabilities into work. This has been developed in partnership with Public Health. The pilot will run for one year.

£20,000 will be secured to run a scaffolding training pilot from the Construction Industry Training Board. This will run from March 2020.

A new 'Health Care employment group' has been set up, bringing together key partners in the Health Care industry to look at skills and employment challenges and how they can be addressed in Medway. A jointly owned action plan has been developed.

Unfortunately, the Work & Health Programme is not financially viable in its current format and so the decision has been made to hand the contract back to the Shaw Trust and close the Employ Medway Advice Centre. The Work & Health Programme will continue to be delivered in Medway by the Shaw Trust.

Council Plan Project - Create job opportunities for Medway residents including Rochester Airport Technology Park, Lower Thames Crossing and across Medway

The Council has agreed with Kent County Council to revise the target start date for the new inward investment services contract to 1 August 2020, to align with the end of the current contract period. The overall contract value will be £1.53m over three years, of which Medway Council will contribute £210,000.





Our joint bid to government (with KCC and East Sussex CC) for just under £2.5m of ESIF funds, to support and extend the inward investment services contract, has passed to the next stage of the process.

We have opened conversations with Lower Thames Crossing stakeholders about skills and jobs requirements and provision.

Council Plan Outcome: Preventing homelessness

Programme: Preventing homelessness

Council Plan Measures: Performance

NI 156		Number of households living in temporary accommodation						Aim to Minimise			
	Value		Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend		Value	Target	Status
Q2 19/20	332	Q3 19/20	324	400				19/20	324	400	

Comments





At the end of Q3 2019 there were a total of 324 households residing in temporary accommodation (TA) provided by the Council in line with its statutory responsibilities. This is a slight decrease from the 332 households that were accommodated at the end of Q2 2019/20.

The majority of households in TA will have children. Therefore, there is a correlation between the overall number of households in TA and the number of children in TA. The accommodation provided to families will usually be in the form of a self-contained property located in Medway.

Benchmarking

Latest available benchmarking figures from March 2019 identify the rate of households in temporary accommodation in Medway is currently 1.16 per 1000 households, this is slightly lower than the national rate of 1.27.

Further benchmarking has been undertaken to identify how Medway compares with other similar sized unitary authorities. In June 2019, the numbers in temporary accommodation in Brighton was at a rate of 5.45 households per 1,000 and Milton Keynes had a rate of 2.64 households per 1,000. Locally, Dartford had a rate of 2.11 in the same time period.





HC3		No. of households with dependent children in B&B who have resided there for 6+ weeks at the end of the quarter						Aim to Minimise			
	Value		Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend		Value	Target	Status
Q2 19/20	0	Q3 19/20	0	0				19/20	0	0	

Comments

A snapshot at the end of Q3 2019/20 identifies that no families were in bed and breakfast accommodation. Additionally, throughout Q3 no families were placed into bed and breakfast for more than 6 weeks.

Action

Work is continuously underway to ensure that the use of bed and breakfast is kept to a minimum. This has been done by seeking more suitable temporary accommodation for households and using HRA properties as temporary accommodation. The Service has also reviewed its procedures to ensure that all cases with children or a pregnant mother are moved on from bed and breakfast within appropriate timescales.

HC4		Number of private sector properties improved as a result of the Council's intervention						Aim to Maximise			
	Value	Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend		Value	Target	Status	
Q2 19/20	72	Q3 19/20	110	150				19/20	350	425	

Comments

In Q3 2019/20, 110 private sector households were assisted in having their properties improved via Council intervention. The continued work in targeted inspection and joint working with the Taskforce is allowing us to move forward with a more robust enforcement and prosecution stance for the most serious cases, this work has continued throughout this quarter. This work is expected to continue throughout Q4.

Action

The Council continues to undertake its range of actions to improve accommodation in the private sector ranging from informal advice to enforcing legislation via the service of statutory notices. Throughout the quarter the most prominent risk has been Excess cold followed by damp and mould growth and fire hazards. Annual monitoring of this indicator has been altered to reflect enforcement only, excluding the informal advice and assistance offered by the team to improve properties. This, coupled with the approach of the team to tackle more complex enforcement and pursue prosecution, has led to this indicator being off target. In addition to the 110 properties mentioned above, the service has undertaken a range of other activity including 263 instances of informal correspondence, and 100 visits to properties providing advice and assistance.

Council Plan Project - Utilise the RSI funding to reduce the number of those Rough Sleeping

In 2019/20 we have secured Rough Sleeping funding of £486,000 for our in-house provision, including rough sleeping coordinator, female specific support, mental health support and outreach. In addition, we commission units of supported accommodation with additional hours of support and a Housing First service. We also received £160,000 for a somewhere safe to stay provision under the Rapid Rehousing Pathway and a further £185,000 for a Housing Navigator service which started in August (and so will run on for 4 months into 2020/21) which equates to £123,334 in year.

We have brought the outreach team in-house and this has allowed us to increase the capacity of the service. Funding is fully utilised and we have achieved a total of 105 rough sleepers moved into accommodation. The team is working effectively with both partner agencies and internal stakeholders. This week we have submitted our funding schedule for 2020-21 and are waiting to hear if we will receive cold weather funding this year.

Council Plan Project - Ensure that the council maximises the opportunity to reduce homelessness through prevention and relief

The Council continues to ensure that the opportunities for the prevention and relief of homelessness are maximised within the district. This includes through joint prevention working arrangements with MHS Homes, a social landlord within the district, to seek to sustain those tenancies of their tenants who are at risk of eviction. Under this arrangement, for the year to end of November, officers have undertaken 103 joint prevention appointments with MHS Staff, of which 81 (or 79%) were successful with possession action being stopped and accommodation sustained.




The Council has proactively sought to expand this prevention initiative to other social landlords operating in the area. Thus, officers met with L&Q finance and tenancy sustainment managers on 19 November 2019 and agreed joint prevention working arrangements to be operational from that date. In addition, officers met with MOAT on 18 September 2019 and agreed provisional arrangements for joint prevention working. However, the arrangements with MOAT are currently suspended pending them obtaining advice to satisfy themselves that they are GDPR compliant. Officers are continuing to work with MOAT with a view to getting these arrangements operational at the earliest opportunity.

Alongside the above, Officers continue to work via the Council's PRS scheme to assist homeless applicants secure private rented accommodation to prevent or relieve their homelessness. For the year to date the Council has successfully assisted 254 households who were homeless/threatened with homelessness to secure alternative accommodation in the private rented sector, with in Q3 to the end of November there being 54 such preventions/reliefs secured via this route. With funding provided via MHCLG, the Council has been working with Help2Rent to offer a transitional insurance product to private sector landlords to enhance our offer to them to secure accommodation and which is currently being rolled out.

Council Plan Outcome: Delivering new homes to meet the needs of Medway's residents

Programme: Delivering new homes to meet the needs of Medway's residents

Council Plan Measures: Performance

NI 154	Net additional homes provided					Aim to Maximise
	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/19	TARGET	STATUS	LONG TREND
642	680	647	1,000			
<p>Comments</p> <p>This data has been published in the Council's Authority Monitoring Report and is available on the website.</p> <p>The main findings from the Monitoring Report include the completion of 647 dwellings in 2018/19, which is a slight decrease on 2017/18. However, site inspections and discussions with developers has revealed a significant increase in the number of dwellings under construction and therefore it is highly likely that the number of completions will reflect this next year.</p>						

Council Plan Project - Preparation of the new Medway Local Plan

The Planning Policy update report was presented to Cabinet on 17 December 2019. The Cabinet approved a revised Local Development Scheme, which includes an updated programme for the preparation of the Medway Local Plan. The publication of a draft Local Plan awaits the completion of the Strategic Transport Assessment and key evidence base documents for the plan.

Council Plan Project - Continue to work on the HIF bid - awaiting decision summer 2019

The Housing Infrastructure Funds (HIF) is a Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government funding stream to forward fund essential infrastructure. After submitting a successful Business Case in March 2019, the Council learnt in November 2019 that the bid was to be awarded the £170m requested. This funding is essential to build the infrastructure required to deliver new homes in a sustainable manner. The road improvements will improve traffic flows and address congestion along the A228, and specifically at Four Elms roundabout and Hill. A new road is being designed which will facilitate the movement of traffic from Peninsula Way to the Wainscott Bypass. Rail will see a new station at Sharnal Street with peak trains initially serving commuters to London as well as off peak journeys to the Strood, Rochester and Chatham. The environmental enhancements will create a network of

large open spaces of high wildlife value. These sites will also provide a space for people to walk, cycle, recreate and play sport – all within a landscape opening up new views across the Peninsula and Medway estuary.

Liaison with the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) continues to move on significantly with both parties contributing to development plans.

Following the award of the HIF funds, the council is working closely with Homes England to address 33 HIF conditions and to complete the Grant Determination Agreement (GDA). Homes England advise that the completing the GDA will take until June 2020.

Council Plan Project - Increase the supply of accommodation available to Medway residents

A number of work streams and projects are underway to ensure that the supply of accommodation in Medway continues to increase. In Q3 2019/20, 162 additional affordable housing units have been completed (291 year to date) representing an investment of £33,465,000 in to the Medway area. It is estimated that 300-368 units will be completed by March 2020.

Work continues to further plans for development within the Council's Housing Revenue Account (HRA). Phase 3 works are now complete and planning applications for a further 32 units in phase 4 have now been submitted.

The Council aims to use its accommodation as efficiently as possible. Minimising the time that properties are empty or void ensures that housing stock is re-let as quickly as possible. For Medway Council stock void turnaround time remains low at an average of 7 days in December compared to an average of 13 days in 2018/19, ensuring we maximise the use of HRA properties.

Project - Encourage the delivery of homes to meet our targets – Rochester Riverside

Rochester Riverside had its first homes occupied in June 2019 and the hotel is now open and trading well. The Rochester Plaza opened as planned in October 2019 where a number of milestones were celebrated. The Co-op opening was brought forward to December 2019/January 2020 and Costa Coffee in Q1 2020.

Project - Encourage the delivery of homes to meet our targets – Strood Waterfront





The flood risk management works across Strood Waterfront are complete, with just the detail around the station to finalise.

Marketing of the Civic site was launched on 16th October 2019 and a development partner should be appointed towards the end of 2020. Marketing of the Riverside site will begin once the appointment of the development partner for Civic has been announced.

Council Plan Outcome: Getting around Medway

Programme: Tackle congestion hotspots by transport and public realm improvements

Council Plan Measures: Performance

NI 167 New		Average journey time along 5 routes across Medway (mins per mile)						Aim to Minimise			
	Value		Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend		Value	Target	Status
Q2 18/19	2.82	Q3 18/19	3.42	4				18/19	3.42	4	

Comments

The Department for Transport (DfT) provided Trafficmaster Data to December 2018 in April 2019. Journey times were thus calculated for the 2018 calendar year. Journey times for 2018 showed improved performance over all, with all four quarters achieving a mins-per-mile time (8am to 9am Monday to Friday morning peak) below the 4 mins-per-mile target. The time was as low as 2.82 mins-per-mile in Q2 of 18/19, the lowest achieved since 2015, a very positive outcome given the increase in car use across this period.

DfT are not expected to release the next tranche of Trafficmaster Data until late 2019/early 2020, at which point journey times for the calendar year 2019 will be calculated and NI167 updated accordingly.

The future prosperity of Medway depends on the prospect of continuing economic growth. The provision of adequate infrastructural investment of new and improved roads is fundamental to enable economic development to come to Medway. In conjunction with these infrastructure developments is the need to meet the challenge of social and environmental objectives of cleaner air and providing a pleasant environment in which to live, work and learn.

Medway Council is committed to enable citizens, visitors and business to move around Medway's road network easily and in the way they choose, i.e. car, public transport, cycling and on foot; encouraging sustainable transport where possible. The connectivity of transport hubs, leisure, shopping and health facilities is at the forefront of our planning so that there is an integrated approach to travel throughout Medway.

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Council Plan Projects - Achieve Level 3 Award with DfT

The Department of Transport (DfT) introduced an Annual Self-Assessment Process for Highway Authorities in 2015-16 that measures how Highway Authorities manage the Highway Network in respect of:

- Asset Management (Policy & Strategy)
- Resilience
- Customer
- Benchmarking & Efficiency
- Operational Services Delivery

The Self-Assessment operates on a banding score of 1-3 and Medway are currently self-assessed as a Band 3 Highway Authority. Band 3 is the highest band score a Local Highway Authority can secure and this resulted in Medway securing an Incentive Fund allocation of £430,000 this financial year for allocating to Highway maintenance.

Key work-streams delivered during Quarter 3 to support the self-assessment for 2019-20 (submission date January 2020) have been:

- Risk Based Service Standards adopted for White Lining
- Highway Communication Plan and Drainage Improvement Plan updated.
- Review of the 22 Self-Assessment questions for submission, by Project Working Group, to test the evidence base for Self-assessment.

Subject to DfT confirming Medway's Self-Assessment being a Band 3 for 2020-21 Medway will secure block funding of £430,000 to fund Highway Improvements next financial year

Council Plan Project - Ongoing management and delivery of the LGF project to improve journey times and the public realm in Strood

During Q3 the Strood LGF project to improve journey times and public realm in the town centre moved towards its final stages. Public realm improvements on the former materials store area on Commercial Road were completed, and the design for the lighting for St. Nicholas Church was completed. Unfortunately, there has been a delay in commencing the lighting works due to a slow response from the Council's Highways contractor. The lighting work will be completed during Q4 along with the final snagging works. It is expected that the project will be completed to budget at the end of Q4/early Q1.

Council Plan Project - Support the development of Chatham Railway Station

The improvement works at Chatham train station managed in partnership between Medway Council, Network Rail and Southeastern were completed in Q3.