

Appendix 7 - 2022/23 Q2

LEVELLING UP, REGENERATION, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

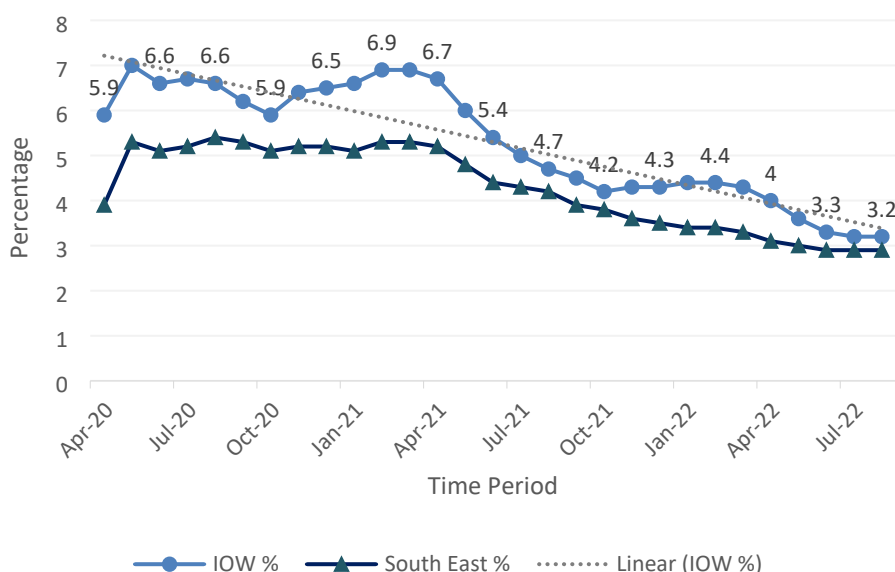
Cabinet Member: Councillor Julie Jones-Evans

Portfolio Responsibilities:

- Economic Development
- Events
- Regeneration Projects
- Levelling Up, SLEP
- Tourism
- Leisure Centres
- Sports Development

Performance Measures

Average number of out of work benefit claimants (per month)



Aim: Reduction in the number of out of work benefit claimants

UN Sustainable Development Goal: 8

Most Recent Status: September 2022

Monitoring Measure Only

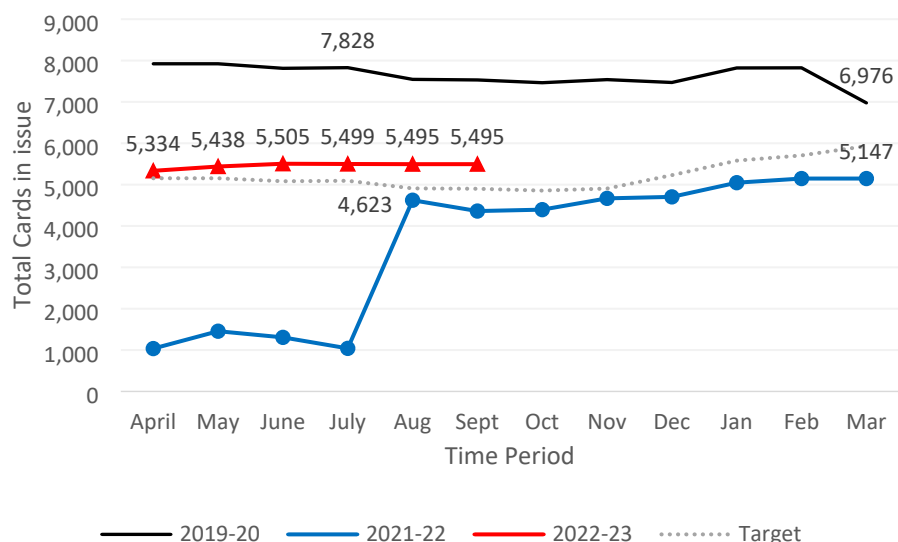
Previous Status: June 2022

Monitoring Measure Only

- The number of out of work benefit claimants dropped to a two-year low in July this year (3.2 percent of the working age population), a figure which has not been seen on the island since March 2020.
- We remain above the South East average of 2.9 percent, but below the England average of 3.7 percent
- The number of claimants on the IW is falling at a faster rate than regionally or nationally and this downward trend shows the island in a far healthier position that at the same time last year, when the claimant count stood at 4.7 percent for August 2021, indicating positive economic recovery as we continue to exit the pandemic
- The actual claimant count for 2021-22 and 2022-23 is shown in the below table

Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22
5370	4775	4290	4005	3770	3550	3365	3385	3395	3455	3460	3380	3145	2855	2856	2560	2565

Total number of One Cards in issue



Aim: Increase in the number of One Cards in issue

UN Sustainable Development Goal: 3

Most Recent Status: September 2022

GREEN

Previous Status: June 2022

AMBER

- The number of One Cards (giving unlimited access to selected sports and leisure activities, subject to availability) in issue has seen a steady rise since the phased re-opening of facilities began in the 2021-22 financial year with the first accurate reflection of membership numbers appearing in September 2021 once the first post-Covid direct debits and cancellations have been processed.
- We have not yet returned to pre-Covid levels of membership (we are currently at 73 percent of membership as of September 2019), though over target and above the 4,361 membership of September 2021. This reflects the impact of sales campaigns around membership, along with investment at Medina Leisure.
- The council recognises the importance of leisure services to residents and visitors to the island and is carrying out a review of services in the light of the large increases in fuel costs and the overall impacts of the rise in the cost of living.

Service Updates - Key Aspirations and Ongoing Business

The following activity supports UN Sustainable Development Goal 4:

The creation of a new Cultural Centre on land at Newport harbour includes the provision of a new Record Office. Consultants were commissioned to prepare a vision document for the proposal, and this was finalised mid-September and issued to all key stakeholders. A copy of the vision document was shared with the National Archive for their review and approval; they have since provided feedback on the record office element and this will be reflected as part of the next stage of design and feasibility work.

The following activity supports UN Sustainable Development Goal 8:

Methodology and timescale for the development of an island cultural strategy led by the island collection has been confirmed for completion by March 2023. The consultation on the strategy is already underway along with the Cultural conference scheduled for Quarter 3.

A dedicated consultant has now been appointed to address viability and funding issues connected with Newport Harbour projects, and a project board has been established to support the next phase of development. The Supplementary Planning Documents will be considered by cabinet in quarter 3, and feasibility for the Cultural Centre on Newport Quay will be completed at the same time.

The Cabinet decision regarding a development partner for Venture Quays housing development is expected during quarter 3. The expression of interest exercise was completed in August 2022 confirming interest in the site for extra care development. Joint procurement with Adult Social Care for a provider/developer is expected to commence in quarter 3 subject to cabinet member agreement of this approach.

Due diligence on the property swap value of the former Shanklin Spa Hotel site has been completed by the Section 151 director of regeneration and is due for cabinet member sign-off in quarter 3 subject to this consideration and eventual disposal. The developer planning application is also expected to follow during quarter 3.

The council is receiving interest for space at Building 41 following soft marketing and promotion at the recent Chamber Business Expo. Training events delivered by Portsmouth University under "Business Boost" continue and the delivery of a mentoring programme via commission to Digital Island is to commence shortly. The Opening of the Digital Innovation Centre is now planned for October to allow for the IT and booking system to be properly up and running. The building is currently providing space to a local a company prior to relocation to Branstone Farm (to enable business continuity).

Works have been completed at Branstone Farm business park, and houses and business units are to be occupied from quarter 3.

The design and costing of Pier Street frontage is being undertaken by Island Roads, and this will inform the agreed final sales price and secure the comfort of the developer in the deliverability and approval of the scheme.

The following activity supports UN Sustainable Development Goal 16:

The Island Skills Board, a sub-group of the Economic Development Board, has now begun to meet and discuss key issues, with Terms of Reference agreed and an action plan finalised. This board is attended by both public and private sector providers, and in November will focus on tourism and hospitality sectors, with representatives from Visit Isle of Wight attending.

A summary of pipeline housing development opportunities funded by One Public estate was completed in June 2022 and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund investment plan was submitted on 1st August 2022 – we are currently awaiting government feedback on this proposal. The Government have also announced a new "rural" addendum (circa £500k) with bids required for submission by 30th November 2022.

Strategic Risks

N/A