

# STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT CABINET COMMITTEE

## Corporate Performance Report - Q1 2020

28 September 2020



*Delivering a Gravesham to be proud of*

**Gravesham**  
Borough Council



## Performance Indicators

**I 28 - %age rate of vacant town centre retail properties**

**I 29 – Average weekly Town Centre footfall**

Factors contributing to performance

Covid impact on footfall – in Mar / Apr, just 35% of 2019 level

Footfall recovery as Town reopened. By Aug, had bounced back to above 70% of 2019 level

Vacancies increase to 11.2% Q1; Q2 figure – Covid-19 yet to fully account for vacancies

Looking ahead

Ongoing recovery work, against backdrop of tightening of Covid-19 restrictions

Redevelopment proposals - The Charter – instrumental in changing mix and investment view on the Town

## Performance Indicators

**I33 – 7.4% resident unemployment rate**

**I34 – 11.9% youth unemployment rate**

### Factors contributing to performance

The period Apr to Jun 2020 was the peak period of UK 'lockdown' measures and the local unemployment rate increased at the same significant rate as the UK as a whole.

With the majority of Q2 complete, it is very likely that furloughing staff through the Job Retention Scheme has effectively capped unemployment at around 7.5%. From 1 Nov, there is a Job Support Scheme.

### Looking ahead

Government Kickstart Scheme - fully-funded 6 month job placements. Min. 30 placements per Gateway.

There will always be growth opportunities! How to pitch Gravesham for these? North Kent well-placed?

Talent pool – vocational skills to reflect local opportunities and including lifelong learning / re-training.