

a proud community; where residents can call a safe, clean and attractive borough their home.

POLICY COMMITMENT

1. Create stronger neighbourhoods: work with Kent Police on the prevention, detection and reduction of crime and anti-social behaviour, and the safeguarding of local residents.

Key work completed or supported by the Community Safety Unit (CSU) during Q3 include:

* A further multi-agency day of action involving Kent Police, KCC Trading Standards, Council officers and HMRC to address the selling of illegal cigarettes and tobacco took place in October. Three shops were visited, hidden compartments found and in total more than 28,000 cigarettes were seized together with 137 pouches of tobacco.

* Tackling Domestic Abuse - 16 Days of Action - #KnowSeeSpeakOut

To help raise awareness of domestic abuse, services and support, the CSU was actively involved in the 16 Days (beginning on 25 November). Working with the Kent Integrated Domestic Abuse Service and our Communications and Digital Teams we:

- Provided daily 'Everyone' emails each day with a link to information about a particular part of the Campaign e.g., Ask for ANI scheme, spotting signs etc.
- Delivered posters/leaflets to nail bars, hairdressing salons and barbers in the town centre.
- Invited staff to use the 16 Days message on their email signature during the 16 Days.
- Flagged the 16 Days of Action of the Council's homepage with a direct link to a range of advice materials and contact numbers.
- Held a DA engagement event in Gravesend to raise awareness of local services.
- Digital display units owned by JD Decaux at Gravesend railway station were used to display two of the key messages from the 16 Days Campaign free of charge.

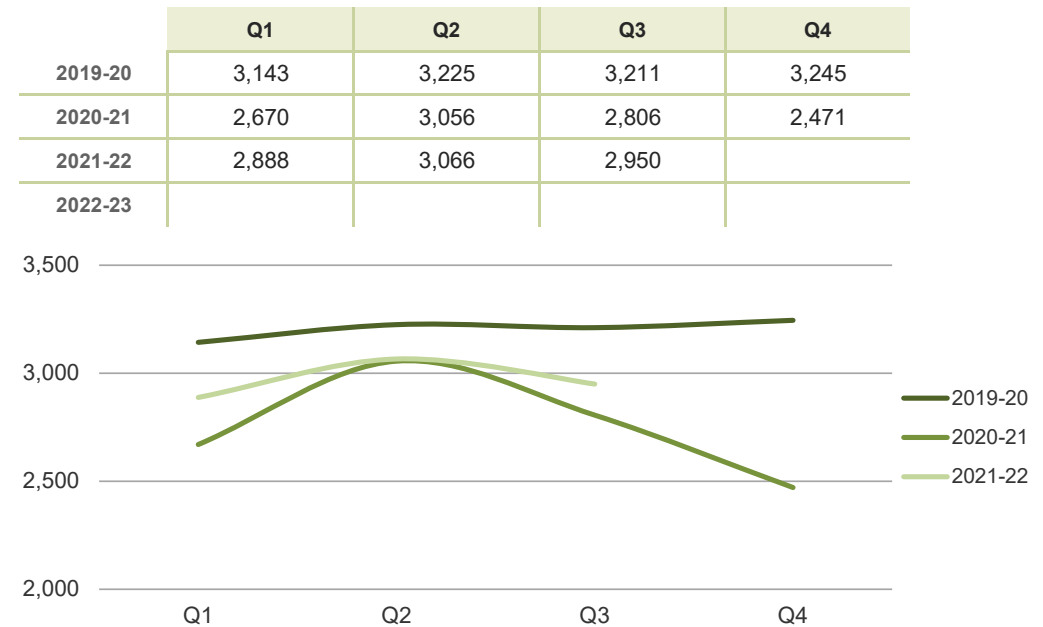
* Community Safety Seasonal Shop – ran in St. George's Centre (6-11 December) to provide crime prevention/safety advice in the run up to Christmas. GBC officers were supported by Kent Police, Bluewater Safety Shop members, G-Safe, Oasis DA Services and others. Approximately 550 people visited the shop and engaged with staff.

* White Ribbon Campaign – In November, the CSU helped coordinate activity leading to the Council receiving accreditation from the White Ribbon Campaign to help develop initiatives to tackle male violence against women and girls. A Steering Group has been created that will produce a 3-year Action Plan to include awareness raising and practical steps to improve personal safety of women and girls (which will simultaneously benefit the wider population). Coverage of the accreditation was very positive, prompted debate and generated enquiries.

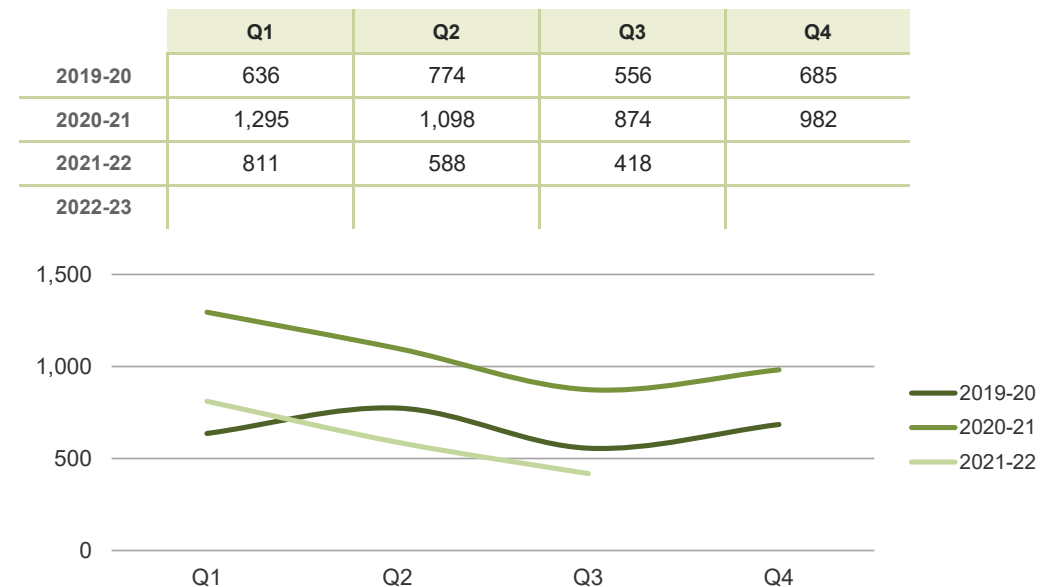
* Training Provision

Far Right Extremism Awareness Training (Small Steps Programme) – arranged with the North Kent Prevent Coordinator for our area. The training session was open to a range of agencies and 10 places were taken by GBC officers. Prevent Training Session for Members – delivered on 6 December and again arranged with our North Kent Prevent Coordinator. 13 Councillors attended and the feedback has been very positive from all involved.

PI 1 Total number of reported crime offences



PI 2 Total number of reported incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour



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POLICY COMMITMENT

2. Actively enforce environmental standards: use available powers to pursue anyone committing environmental crime or damaging the local environment.

Environmental Enforcement Team activity Q3 October/November/December 2021.

In the Q3 period the team have issued 69 Community Protection Warnings and a single Community Protection Notice. These have been issued in connection with inappropriate placement of household waste. The Community Protection Notice was issued in relation to on-going issues with an illegal tyre storage facility at the Canal Basin. There have also been 11 £400 Fixed penalty notices issued for fly tipping offences.

Since the beginning of December the team have had the additional power to issue fixed penalty notices relating to a householders failure in their duty of care to dispose of waste lawfully, and for offences relating to the carriage and transfer of waste by waste carriers. There have been 3 x £400 Fixed Penalty Notices issued so far for Duty of Care offences.

The team currently have 8 cases awaiting court prosecution and have had three successful prosecutions at Magistrates Court. In the first case a householder was found guilty of obstructing an investigation and received a conditional discharge and costs. In the second a Gravesham resident failed in his duty of care by allowing an unknown carrier, sourced on social media, to take his waste, which was subsequently fly tipped in Northfleet. They received a £1500 fine and ordered to pay nearly £500 costs. In the third case a local landlord used a piece of land in Meopham to burn waste generated by his business. He failed to cooperate with the enquiry and was found guilty in his absence. He was fined and ordered to pay costs totalling £2336.

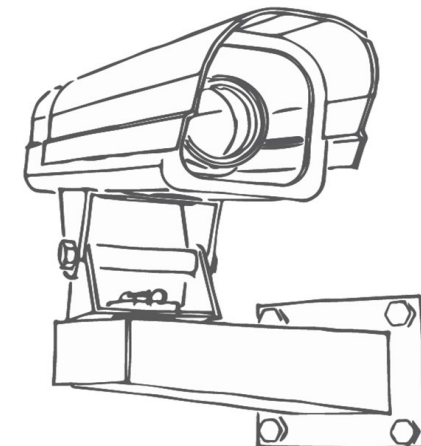
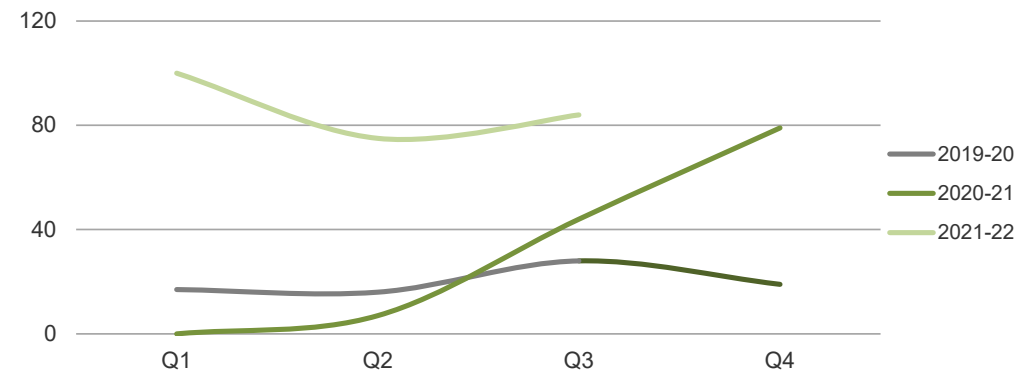
The team continue to carry out proactive work with Kent Police and partner agencies and have carried out a joint operation, which involved stopping vehicles involved in waste carriage. As a result a caution was issued and Kent Police seized two vehicles for illegal waste carriage and road traffic offences.

At the end of December 2021 the team had 45 open investigations, most of which were of a complicated and protracted nature. They are currently working with neighbouring authorities to investigate a number of large scale offences, involving the unlawful depositing of 1000s of tons of waste across North Kent. This is a complex enquiry involving colleagues from Medway, TMBC, Maidstone, the Environment Agency and Kent Police.

The team continue to work closely with the GBC Media team to ensure that appropriate educational messages are sent out on social media and to publicise enforcement action and court results. It is believed that this strategy is acting as an effective deterrent to potential offenders.

PI 13 Total number of environmental enforcement actions taken

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2019-20	17	16	28	19
2020-21	0	7	44	79
2021-22	100	75	84	
2022-23				



POLICY COMMITMENT

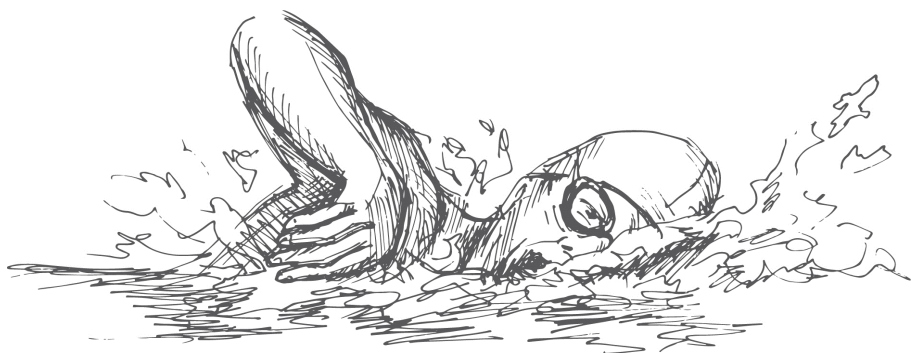
1. Design a quality and affordable leisure offer: improved facilities and creative sports programmes to tackle local health inequalities.

Leisure Centres - As a backdrop to the latest attendance figures, it should be noted that some activity areas continue to be subject to reduced capacities and booking requirements. The new Omicron variant which continues to reduce local community confidence to return and some areas remained not re-started such as crèche and children's parties/ holiday camp. Total attendance was 105,621 in Q3, which equates to 54% of the 194,043 evident in Q3 2019/20.

Looking at some of the specific activity areas;

- Swimming for the 2021 October to December period was 46,327 compared to 66,077 (71%). Cascades has recovered better at 85% even though the swimming lessons are much lower than they were in 2019. Therefore, the new booking system and control measures for general bathing at Cascades have been very well received and supported by the local community.
- Sports Hall usage for the 2021 period is at 5,436 compared to 7,331 (74%), however, quash is only at 12% of the levels recorded in 2019.
- Gym totals are at 21,494 compared to 39,764 (54%) – saying this, there are some shoots of positiveness with GCLL's membership sales figures from 1st January 2022, which are 60% above those in January 2020 before the first lockdown. It should be noted the additional budget gym competition Gravesham now has in the town centre.
- Group Classes are at 7,662 compared to 17,811 (43%) but the majority of classes are at reduced maximum capacity numbers compared to 2019.
- Health Suite usage is at 4,410 compared to 11,626 (38%) – these areas continue to be subject to reduced maximum numbers compared to 2019 and are all pre-bookable sessions.

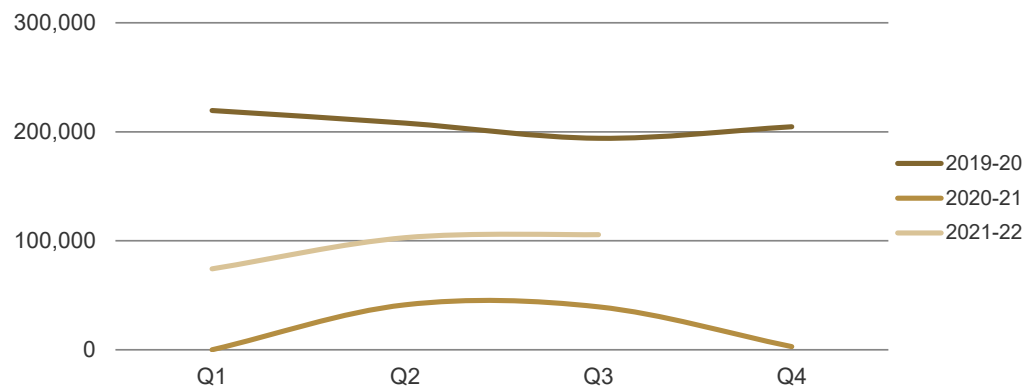
Football - Take up for pitches this season has been higher than in the last few years. Over 500 players are accessing the council's playing pitches across four sites managed by the Leisure Team on a weekly basis, which includes 21 adult football teams and 11 junior teams, with the majority of usage taking place on Saturdays and Sundays. There is also some additional junior usage at Istead Rise Recreation Ground and Luddesdown Recreation Ground, which are managed locally by the community association and parish council respectively.



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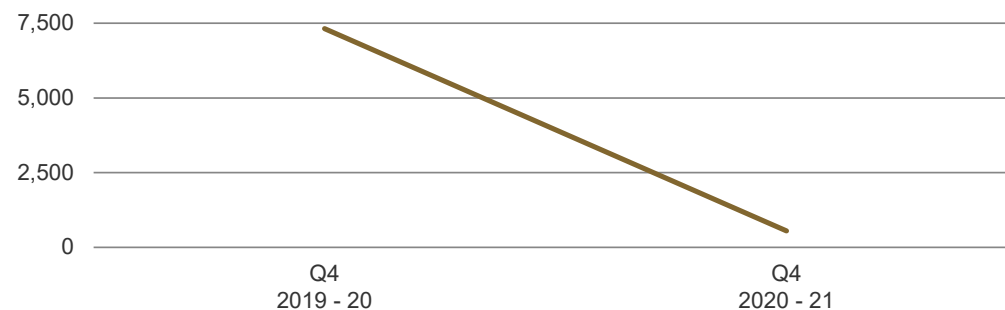
PI 37 Total number of leisure centre attendees

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2019-20	219,508	207,957	194,043	204,620
2020-21	N/A	41,278	39,391	2,901
2021-22	74,247	102,871	105,621	
2022-23				



PI 38 Total number of 'Active Gravesham' attendees

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2019-20	Annual indicator			7,318
2020-21				551
2021-22				
2022-23				



POLICY COMMITMENT

2. Manage a programme of proactive healthy living interventions: work with partners to help support and safeguard vulnerable residents.

Key activity in Q3 included:

* Digital Tech Intermediate Course: Q3 was the first time we delivered an intermediate level course as part of our digital tech sessions. We delivered the course in partnership with NWK Citizens Advice at Age UK where we supported 4 learners with: scams awareness, social media, google maps, email management and more.

* Christmas In a Box: This year we were back with our Christmas in a Box project. The scheme working with KCC Early Help, identifying Young Carers in Gravesham and families in need over the festive period. This year we were able to provide 150 Families. Support came from local businesses and partners. We were also able to donate 35 bags of everyday items to Northfleet Foodbank and the Gravesend Langar Seva team.

* One You – Grand Active: The One You team hosted classes at NWK Crossfit, based in Gravesend town centre. The classes were popular and the number of BAME clients was some of the highest we have had. The ability for the clients to use machines and equipment they wouldn't normally use and the uniqueness of the classes being key elements to their attendance. The KCC One You Comms team have seen this as a great opportunity to help advertise the classes over the county, using the BAME voices at the classes. In January – short video adverts of our clients explaining their reasons for attending in Punjabi & English will be shared to help other areas of Kent attract members of different communities.

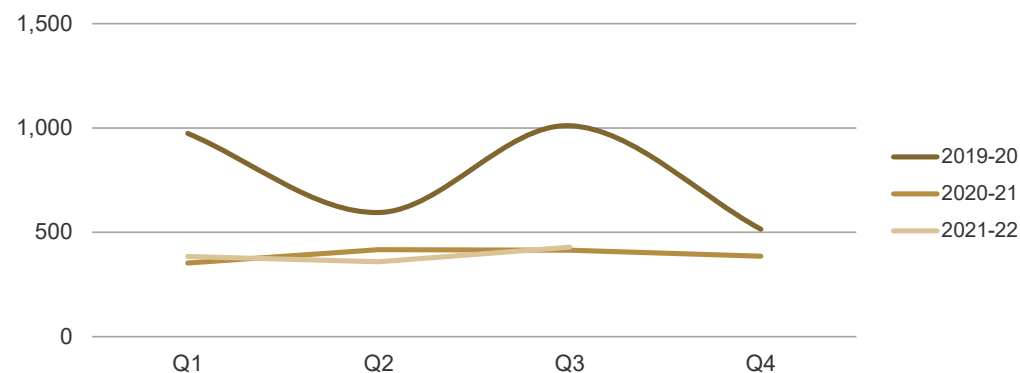
* Adult Singing Sessions: With Mental Health and Social Isolation on the rise during the pandemic, the One You Team were approached by parents of Young People involved with the YYG Project. With the youth team we created an Adult Singing Session with Volney Morgan our MOBO award winning session lead. The uptake of classes has been brilliant, with new members joining weekly. The group have all become close friends and their WEMWBS mental wellbeing score has improved across the group.

* Climate Change: GYG Gone Wild and the Gravesham Youth Council came together around Climate Change. Twenty young people, alongside Gravesham Borough Councillors came together putting forward proposals for a communique to send to Central Government, this all took place during the week of COP26.

* GYG Showcase: November saw the return of our main GYG Showcase night. This year event was held at Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Church. We were able to host 160 people who all came to watch the 25 acts and support the young people and raise funds for the service.

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PI 40	Total number of people achieving a target outcome from the Gr@nd healthy living services			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2019-20	974	595	1,011	515
2020-21	353	417	414	386
2021-22	384	359	429	
2022-23				



POLICY COMMITMENT

3. Develop a cohesive and resilient community: implement a leading programme of engagement initiatives, showcasing the borough's diversity and enabling greater participation in civic life.

The 2021 Community Awards were presented in October as part of the council's Civic Service with five awards presented in total. The Gravesend and Ebbsfleet Rotary Club organised crocus bulb planting in Woodlands Park with St George's school as part of the Rotary Club's polio vaccination campaign.

Celebrations this quarter include Black History Month with a number of events organised by the local community including exhibitions in the Blake Gallery and at the market. Diwali was celebrated by the local Hindu community at the local Mandir and for St Nicholas Day the Czech Slovak Roma community organised a horse drawn carriage and distributed presents in Gravesend town centre and on community square. The North Kent Interfaith Network organised a faith walk around Gravesend for Inter-Faith week. The community events fund supported a Christmas party for families accessing Hive Hope Foodbank and Christmas lights at the Hive.

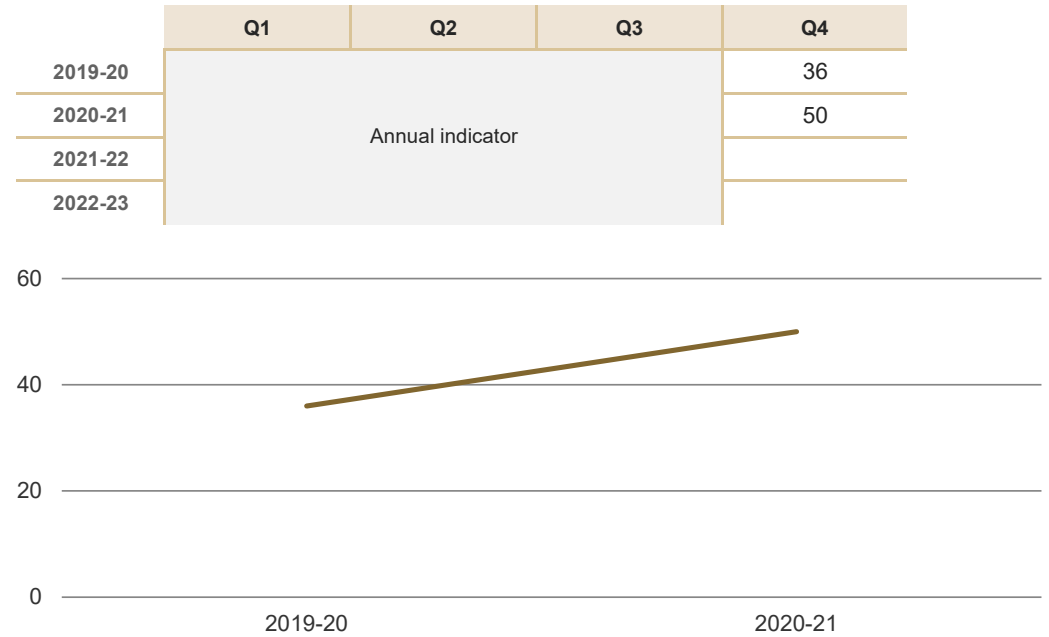
Group litter picking has continued to be well supported with 10 litter picks organised across the borough. In Mackenzie Way the litter picking volunteers organised a clear up of a community memorial garden ahead of Remembrance Sunday.

#2 PLACE

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PI 41

Total number of community activities/events delivered by the council and in conjunction with its partners



POLICY COMMITMENT

4. Enhance the borough's cultural offer: maximise the usage of The Woodville and the Borough Market as community assets.

* The Woodville opened again for performances in September and the decision was taken for the capacity to be limited to maintain some space for audiences. This was well received by audiences who repeatedly described the experience as feeling safe. The venue has performed well within those restrictions with many shows reaching capacity. The season at the Woodville finished with the pantomime which was well received with some very positive feedback.

* St Andrew's Art Centre celebrated its 150 anniversary with the start of the St Andrew's Waterfront project in partnership with LV21, historical talks and the production of a new site specific immersive piece of theatre called Dickens and the Ghosts of St Andrew's, dramatising the role of the many benefactors who were responsible for the creation of the St Andrew's Mission in 1871.

* St George's Arts Centre opened in December 2021 and has been widely applauded for the new opportunities that it gives to the cultural and artistic life of Gravesham.

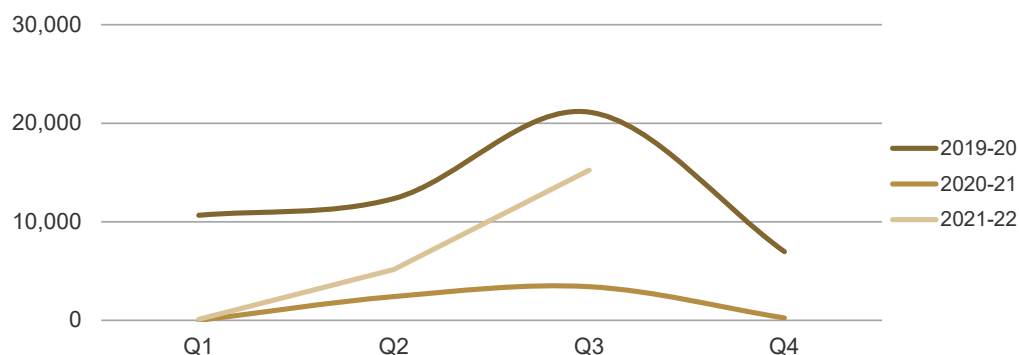
* The Borough Market held a programme of pop up markets and themed activities in the run up to Christmas which included evening Twilight markets, workshops, Christmas markets and a themed 'grotto'. Footfall increased across this period which is in line for this time of year.



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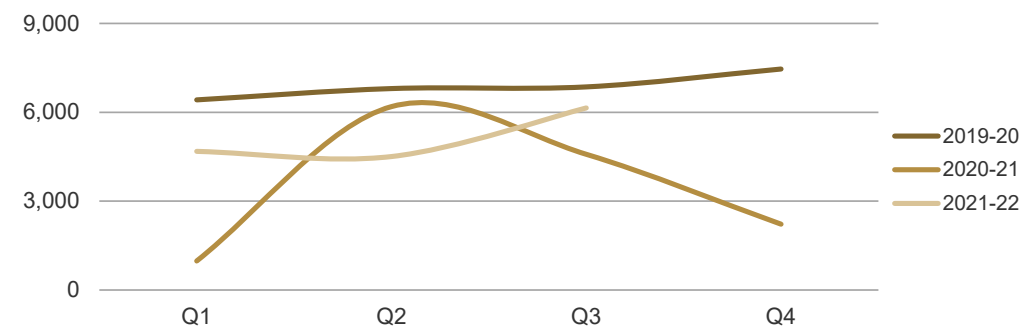
PI 42 Total number of patron tickets sold by The Woodville

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2019-20	10,658	12,358	21,127	6,968
2020-21	0	2,413	3,415	241
2021-22	107	5,172	15,239	
2022-23				



PI 43 Average weekly Borough Market footfall

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2019-20	6,419	6,801	6,857	7,461
2020-21	980	6,192	4,582	2,223
2021-22	4,681	4,506	6,147	
2022-23				



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POLICY COMMITMENT

5. Promote Gravesham's arts and heritage: support local groups in their community reach and expand the visitor economy.

Heritage:

Milton Chantry and New Tavern Fort closed for the winter on the last weekend in September which coincided with the Hope and Glory event weekend. Good visitor numbers were recorded for both sites so the season albeit a short one ended well. The sites will continue to be monitored during the closed period and displays will be refreshed ready for opening in April 2022.

During November works to replace all of the Cartridge Store doors at the Fort were completed and each has been provided with new security locks. Restoration to the damaged mullion on Milton Chantry has now also been completed, with new stonework now in place. We are now waiting for the damaged window to be replaced.

In November, we were advised that Historic England had received an application to add Shornemead Fort historic fortification to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. Historic England will therefore be assessing the historic fortification and will be preparing their advice on whether the fortification holds special architectural or historic interest, for the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport.

Arts:

Work has focused around the development of the new St George's Arts Centre which officially opened on the 11 December 2021 with the inaugural exhibition called Twinkle Twinkle by local artist Mona Whitton. A full programme of exhibitions and supporting events will be announced in the New Year.

PI 44 Total number of visitors attending Gravesham heritage sites

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2019-20	Annual indicator			4,936
2020-21				0
2021-22				
2022-23				

