

Thames Gateway Kent: Economic Indicators Dashboard

June 2012

| Total Employment Rates | | Compared to: | | |
|------------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | Previous quarter | Previous Year | Two years ago |
| Thames Gateway Kent | 70.2% | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |
| Kent & Medway | 71.5% | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |
| Greater South East | 71.6% | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |
| Great Britain | 70.0% | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |

Source: Annual Population Survey, Oct 2010-Sep 2011, Jul 2010-Jun 2011, Oct 2009-Sep 2010, Oct 2008-Sep 2009

- The total employment rate in TGK is lower than in Kent & Medway (K&M) and the Greater South East (GSE), but around the Great Britain (GB) average.
- Like elsewhere, the employment rate in TGK has fallen over the last two years.

| Total Economic Inactivity Rates | | Compared to: | | |
|---------------------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | Previous quarter | Previous Year | Two years ago |
| Thames Gateway Kent | 21.2% | ↓ | ↓ | ↑ |
| Kent & Medway | 21.4% | ↓ | ↓ | = |
| Greater South East | 22.6% | ↑ | ↑ | ↓ |
| Great Britain | 23.9% | ↓ | ↑ | ↓ |

Source: Annual Population Survey, Oct 2010-Sep 2011, Jul 2010-Jun 2011, Oct 2009-Sep 2010, Oct 2008-Sep 2009

- Economic inactivity is on a par in TGK with the K&M average, but lower than the GSE and GB average.
- Both TGK and K&M have seen a fall in economic inactivity over the last year, counter to the regional trend.

| Total Unemployment Rates | | Compared to: | | |
|--------------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | Previous quarter | Previous Year | Two years ago |
| Thames Gateway Kent | 10.9% | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ |
| Kent & Medway | 9.0% | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ |
| Greater South East | 7.5% | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ |
| Great Britain | 8.0% | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ |

Source: Annual Population Survey, Oct 2010-Sep 2011, Jul 2010-Jun 2011, Oct 2009-Sep 2010, Oct 2008-Sep 2009

- The unemployment rate is higher in TGK than in K&M, GSE and GB as a whole.
- Unemployment has increased consistently in TGK and the benchmark areas over the last two years.

| JSA Claimant Rates | | | Compared to: | | |
|---------------------|--------|------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | | | Previous Month | Previous Quarter | Previous Year |
| Thames Gateway Kent | 15,880 | 4.2% | ↓ | ↑ | ↑ |
| Dartford | 2,006 | 3.2% | ↓ | ↑ | ↑ |
| Gravesham | 2,864 | 4.5% | ↓ | ↑ | ↑ |
| Medway | 7,410 | 4.4% | ↓ | ↓ | ↑ |
| Swale | 3,600 | 4.3% | ↓ | ↓ | ↑ |
| Kent & Medway | 37,602 | 3.5% | ↓ | ↓ | ↑ |
| Greater South East | | 3.4% | ↓ | ↓ | ↑ |
| Great Britain | | 4.0% | ↓ | ↓ | ↑ |

Source: Job Centre Plus, JSA Claimant Counts, Apr 2011; Jan 2012; Apr 2012

- The Job Seeker Allowance (JSA) claimant rate is considerably higher in TGK than in K&M and the GSE, but similar to the GB rate.
- Dartford has a lower JSA rate than other areas across TGK.
- Over the last month the rate has fallen across all districts across TGK and in all the benchmark areas too.
- Since the end of last quarter the Claimant rate is now lower in Medway and Swale, although overall it remains higher across TGK.

Out-of-work Benefit Claimants

| | | | Compared to: | | |
|---------------------|---------|-------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | | Previous Quarter | Previous Year | Two years ago |
| Thames Gateway Kent | 45,740 | 12.1% | ↑ | ↑ | ↓ |
| Dartford | 5,940 | 9.6% | ↓ | ↑ | ↓ |
| Gravesham | 7,710 | 12.1% | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ |
| Medway | 20,980 | 12.4% | = | ↑ | ↓ |
| Swale | 11,100 | 13.1% | ↑ | ↑ | ↓ |
| Kent & Medway | 115,640 | 10.9% | ↑ | ↑ | ↓ |
| Greater South East | | 10.3% | ↓ | ↑ | ↓ |
| Great Britain | | 12.2% | ↓ | ↑ | ↓ |

Source: DWP Work & Pensions Benefits Longitudinal Study; Nov 2011, Aug 2011, Nov 2010, Nov 2009

- The Out-of-work benefit claimant rate is higher in TGK than in K&M and the GSE and on a par with the GB average
- Across TGK Swale has the highest rate which is well above the TGK and GB average.
- The rate in Dartford is well below the other benchmark areas and has seen an improvement over the last quarter.

Notified Vacancies

| | | Compared to: | | |
|---------------------|-------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | | Previous Month | Previous Quarter | Previous Year |
| Thames Gateway Kent | 2,720 | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ |
| Dartford | 963 | ↑ | ↑ | ↓ |
| Gravesham | 227 | ↓ | ↑ | ↓ |
| Medway | 858 | ↑ | ↓ | ↑ |
| Swale | 672 | ↑ | ↓ | ↑ |
| Kent & Medway | 9,275 | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ |
| Greater South East | | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ |
| Great Britain | | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ |

Source: Job Centre Plus, JSA Claimant Counts, Apr 2011; Jan 2012; Apr 2012

- The number of notified vacancies has increased across all areas over the last month, with the exception of Gravesham in the last month and Gravesham and Swale over the last quarter
- Since the previous year the number of vacancies have also increased, with the exception of Dartford and Gravesham where there are now fewer job opportunities available.

JCA Claimants: Notified Vacancies

| | | Compared to: | | |
|---------------------|----------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | | Previous Month | Previous Quarter | Previous Year |
| Thames Gateway Kent | 5.8 : 1 | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |
| Dartford | 2.1 : 1 | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |
| Gravesham | 12.6 : 1 | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ |
| Medway | 8.6 : 1 | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |
| Swale | 5.4 : 1 | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |
| Kent & Medway | 4.1 : 1 | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |
| Greater South East | 3.6 : 1 | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |
| Great Britain | 3.5 : 1 | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |

Source: Job Centre Plus, Apr 2012, Mar 2012, Jan 2012, Apr 2012

- The ratio of claimants to vacancies is higher in TGK than in K&M, the GSE and GB.
- There is considerable variation in the ratios across TGK, being highest in Gravesham and lowest in Dartford
- Over the time period, the ratio has fallen in all areas except Gravesham where fewer vacancies has been the main cause.

