Town Deal Board

21 July 2021

Crawley Headline Information



Universal Credit Claimant Count

Claimant count (May 2021) has fallen from the previous month by 8% to 7.8%.....

.....but is still higher than in May 2020 and remains the highest in West Sussex and the locality

Youth unemployment 12.2% (940)

Crawley is ranked 45th out of 380 local authority areas and 4th highest in the South East (after Thanet, Hastings and Slough)

Local Authority Area	Claimant Count % - May 2021	Number of Claimants	Claimant Count % - May 2020	Variatio n yoy
Adur	5.5%	2055	6.5%	-1.0%
Arun	5.4%	4800	6.2%	-0.8%
Brighton & Hove	6.3%	13080	6.9%	-0.6%
Chichester	4.7%	3175	5.2%	-0.5%
Crawley	7.8%	5670	7.2%	+0.6%
Epsom and Ewell	3.4%	1690	4.1%	-0.7%
Horsham	3.9%	3015	4.1%	-0.2%
Mid Sussex	3.2%	2855	3.8%	-0.6%
Mole Valley	3.4%	1715	3.8%	-0.4%
Reigate and Banstead	4.0%	3615	4.3%	-0.3%
Tandridge	3.9%	2065	4.4%	-0.5%
Worthing	5.5%	3655	6.2%	-0.7%

Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (Furlough)

Crawley currently has 9,500 local residents on furlough (May 2021)

Highest take up in West Sussex and 8th highest in the South East

The top three furloughed sectors in Crawley are:

- Accommodation and food services
- Transportation and storage
- Administrative and support services

Adur	3,000	11.3%
Arun	8,300	12.4%
Chichester	6,400	13.2%
Crawley	9,500	16.3%
Horsham	7,900	12.3%
Mid Sussex	7,800	11.5%
Worthing	5,300	11.1%
West Sussex	48,200	12.7%
South East	451,500	11.1%
England	2,764,900	11.4%

Location

Number furloughed Take-up rate

Scheme set to continue until end September

Business Support Grants

- Since the beginning of the pandemic to 1st July 2021, Crawley BC has paid out over £25.69m in business support grants including:
 - Small Business Rate Relief Grant
 - Retail, Hospitality & Leisure Grant
 - Wet-led Pub Grant
 - Local Restrictions Grant
 - Restart Grant
- and £3.63m in Additional Restrictions (Discretionary) Grants to over 2,100 businesses





Clear signs of recovery on the ground

- Towns Fund investment of £21.1m
- Eastern Gateway £8.8m improvement scheme underway. Completion July 2022
- Manor Royal Highways Improvement **Scheme** – £1.2m scheme underway. Completion July 2022
- £23m investment in 'full fibre' underway, planning permission granted for City Fibre exchange in Manor Royal
- Station Gateway £70m scheme granted planning permission April 2021. Arora keen to commence works this year. S106 agreement being progressed.

















New Town Hall

- Major regeneration scheme well underway to deliver The Create Building:
 - new town hall
 - 78,000 sq ft Grade A commercial office space
 - new public square
 - public realm improvements
 - district energy centre
 - 273 residential units.
- Phase 1 due for completion Spring 2022
- SHW actively marketing commercial space
- 91 affordable residential units to the west of the town hall in Geraint Thomas House; available for occupancy Summer 2021.





County Buildings

- Identified for redevelopment by WSCC through the One Public Estate Partnership
- Demolition completed June 2021
- Currently being used as a compound for Eastern Gateways works
- WSCC preparing business case to deliver mixed used (commercial/residential) regeneration scheme





Economic Recovery Plan

- Crawley BC has prepared a draft economic recovery plan which outlines a vision for the town's future prosperity and recovery from the pandemic.
- Strategic priorities include:
 - Diverse and resilient economy
 - Green transformation
 - Town centre renewal
 - Skills for the future
 - Connected Crawley
- Comment before 10 September at www.crawley.gov.uk/consultation



