Derry City & Strabane District's

Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan 2017-2032

Strategic Growth Partnership

2 July 2020

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Strategic Growth Partnership
Remote Meeting Protocol

- Meeting will be live streamed and can be viewed by the public.
- All Members except the Chair are asked to keep their microphones on mute unless invited to speak.
- Members who wish to speak should indicate a desire to do so by using the chat function.
- When invited to speak by the Chair, please unmute microphone and, where possible switch on video, to enable being heard and seen.
- When finished speaking, please remember to switch microphone to mute again.
- In the event that the Chair or the Officer hosting the meeting identifies a failure of the remote participation facility, the Chair will declare an adjournment while the fault is addressed.

2. Apologies

3. Declarations of Interest

4. Minutes of the last meeting: 26 Feb 2020

5. COVID 19 Community Response

Funding

- DCSDC Local Area COVID 19 Community Response Fund:
  - Awards up to £27k per DEA through the Local Growth Partnerships ensuring a Co ordinated Response
- DfC COVID-19 Community Support Fund: c.£280k.
- DCSDC CFNI Community Resilience Fund:
  - £50k (Awards from £1k to £2.5k)
  - Compliments NI wide Coronavirus Community Fund with awards from £5k to £10k)
- Sport NI hardship fund available to support local groups with funding of £2k
- Advice Services - £44,586 to provide additional hours, staff and telephone lines
- Community Centre Venues Fund – extended to ensure continuity of support to 22 Community Centres across the District
- Advance Payments to Community & Voluntary Sector projects to support cashflow in order to allow an immediate response

5. COVID 19 Community Response

Community Support Hubs

- Co-ordinated partnership approach - WHSCT/C&V/DCSDC/DfC/ Sector Partners
- 7 days per week
- Local Community Leads identified
- Provide support to vulnerable and isolated people
- Community Resilience Plans developed for each DEA
- Co-ordination of Food Boxes, Volunteers, Advice, Signposting of services/funding opportunities etc.
- Food Box distribution to shielded persons without access to local support networks and those in critical need of food
- Co-ordination and Distribution of Food Boxes by C&V Sector Partners/Easilink/Forest Service/Loughs Agency (Rural) and Foyle Search and Rescue (Urban)

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COVID Access to Food Project - Derry and Strabane District Council Area

Lessons Learned

What worked well:

- Local Growth P/ships – able to mobilise quickly – model provided the infrastructure to respond quickly
- Volunteer Effort/managed last mile

What didn't work well:

- Timescale to develop referral system
- Need for more robust referral criteria system/communication on entitlement
- Demand outstripped supply
- Delay in development of supermarket slots for Shielded

What needs have been identified?

- Need to manage the Exit Strategy and avoid cliff edge
- Need to tackle Food Poverty and associated Mental Health issues
- Holiday Hunger identified through school closure
- How do we clearly identify and meet needs of most vulnerable families
- Unexpected Rural Demand – Hidden Poverty – Needs Resourced
- Build on partnerships established – Trust/Councils/Dfc/C&V

What are our priorities?

- Managed Exit Strategy from Access to Food Project/no cliff edge
- Work closely with Advice Providers
- Examine potential ways to tackle food/hidden poverty
- Voucher/Social Supermarket Pilots utilising existing food outlets
- Action on Food Poverty within Council Area

Success:

- There is an increased managed access to food for the most vulnerable within communities at local level, reducing food poverty/holiday hunger

Outcomes

Increased local access to food for those in Food Poverty and in the most vulnerable categories.

6. Recovery
City/Town Centre (s)

- City Centre / Town Centre Recovery Group:
  - Physical Walk Through in Derry and Strabane with stakeholders
  - Identification of a range of physical initiatives to mitigate risk/support agile trading and to improve the physical environment – currently being assessed and prioritised by stakeholders
  - Survey of Existing Businesses
  - Involved council officers across the organisation

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6. Recovery
City/Town Centre (s)

Regional Government Partnership

Potential DfC Funding

- A business case prepared and submitted to DfC
- Areas that could be funded include:
  - Shop Local Campaign
  - Deep cleaning
  - Street Furniture / Infrastructure / Planting
  - Business Grant Aid Scheme
  - Animation Programme
- DFI Cooperation regarding potential areas to trade and in line with DFI minister’s initiative to increase walking and cycling.
- DEARA has provided additional funding for an extension to the rural business grant scheme.

6. Recovery
City/Town Centre (s)

DCSDC approved the following: -

- Pavement Café Licence – temporary arrangements
- Walled City Market to restart on 18th July
- Car Park charging to restart on 1st July
- Permission to accept a Letter of Offer from DfC in due course.

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Derry City & Strabane District Council:

COVID-19 Impacts

May 2020

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The Broad Perspective

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How has the impact unfolded?

Containment

- Quarantine
- Travel and movement restriction
- Closure of public spaces and buildings

Supply of goods and services

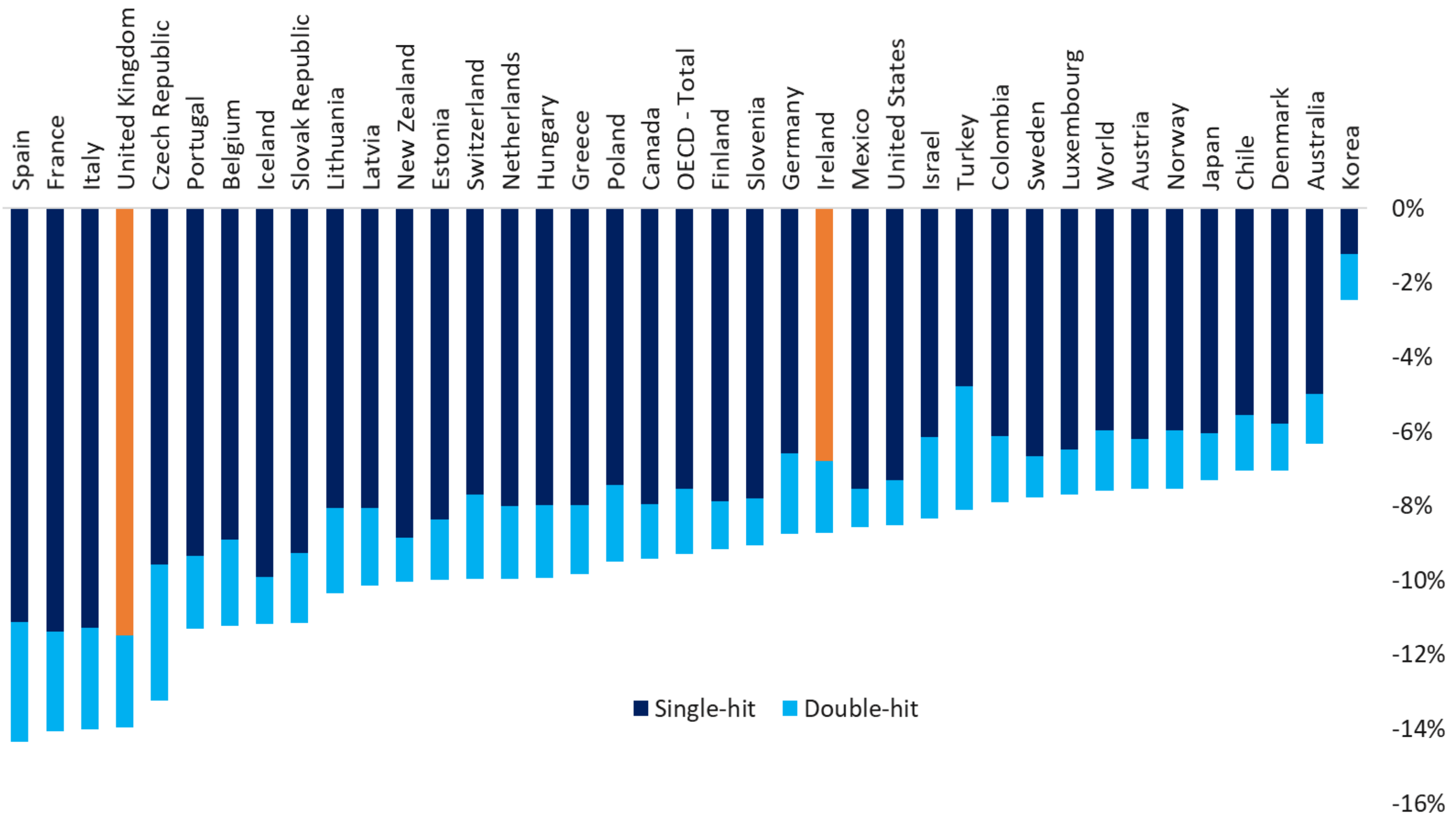
- Enterprise closures
- Reductions in service levels & productivity
- Supply chain disruption

Demand

- Confidence reductions
- Consumption patterns – essentials and online
- Save rather than spend
- Non-food retail, FDI, tourism, travel & entertainment

National GDP forecasts

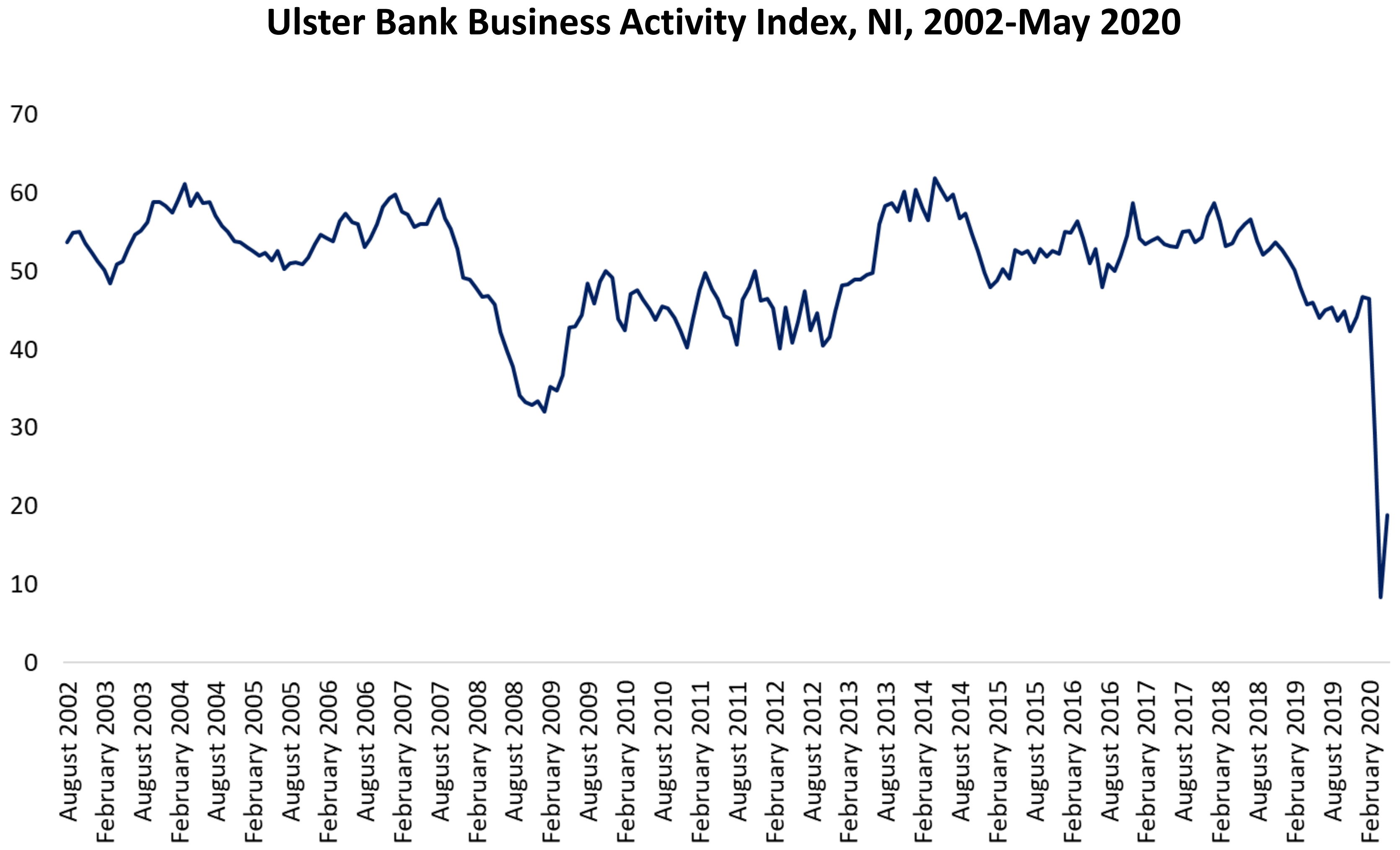
OECD Single-Hit and Double-Hit 2020 GDP growth forecasts, June 2020



Source: OECD

How do businesses in NI currently feel?

Sharpest contraction in April since records began –some early signs of this easing in May



Source: IHS Markit & Ulster Bank (PMI)

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Labour Market Impact: Sectors Most at Risk

As many as 414k jobs are at risk from COVID-19 through furloughs or lay-offs

Sectors most impacted: Total Employment levels, NI, Q4 2019

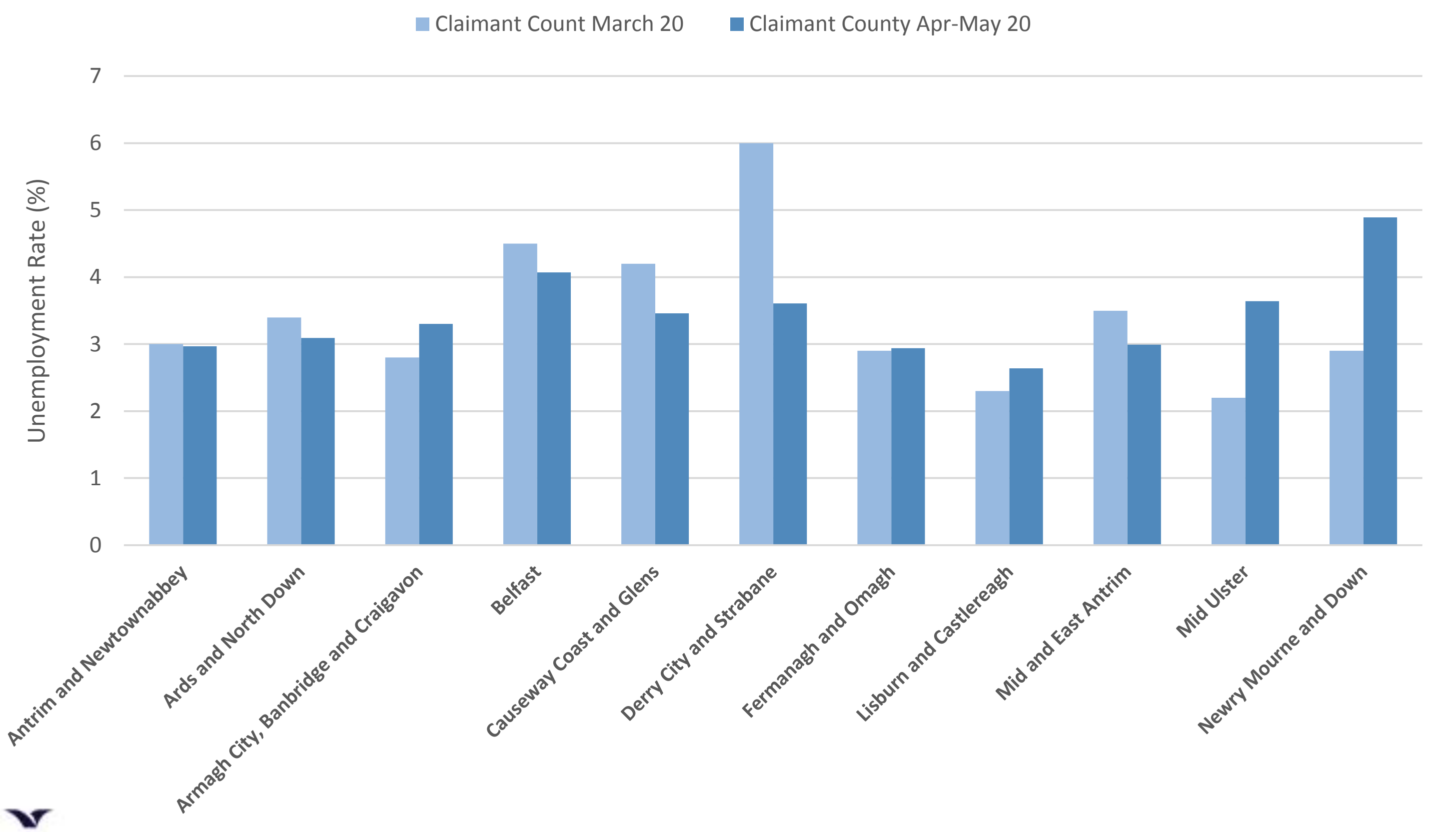
Sector	Employment
Wholesale & Retail	145k
Manufacturing	96k
Construction	59k
Hospitality	55k
Transportation & Storage	29k
Arts & Leisure	20k
Real Estate	10k
TOTAL	414k

Source: UUEPC & BRES

What are the early signs on unemployment?

Surge in Claimant Count numbers – up by over 35,000 in two months

Council Area rate of claimants, March – May 2020



Source: DfC, UUEPC
Note: Council shares estimated from Job Centre location

- Belfast continues to have the largest number of JSA claimants, c.15,000
- Newry, Mourne & Down has had the biggest rise of 168%
- Derry City and Strabane continues to have the highest rate (9.6%), but increased by approximately 60%, the lowest relative increase
- Important point here about this crisis being visited on communities and households already disadvantaged

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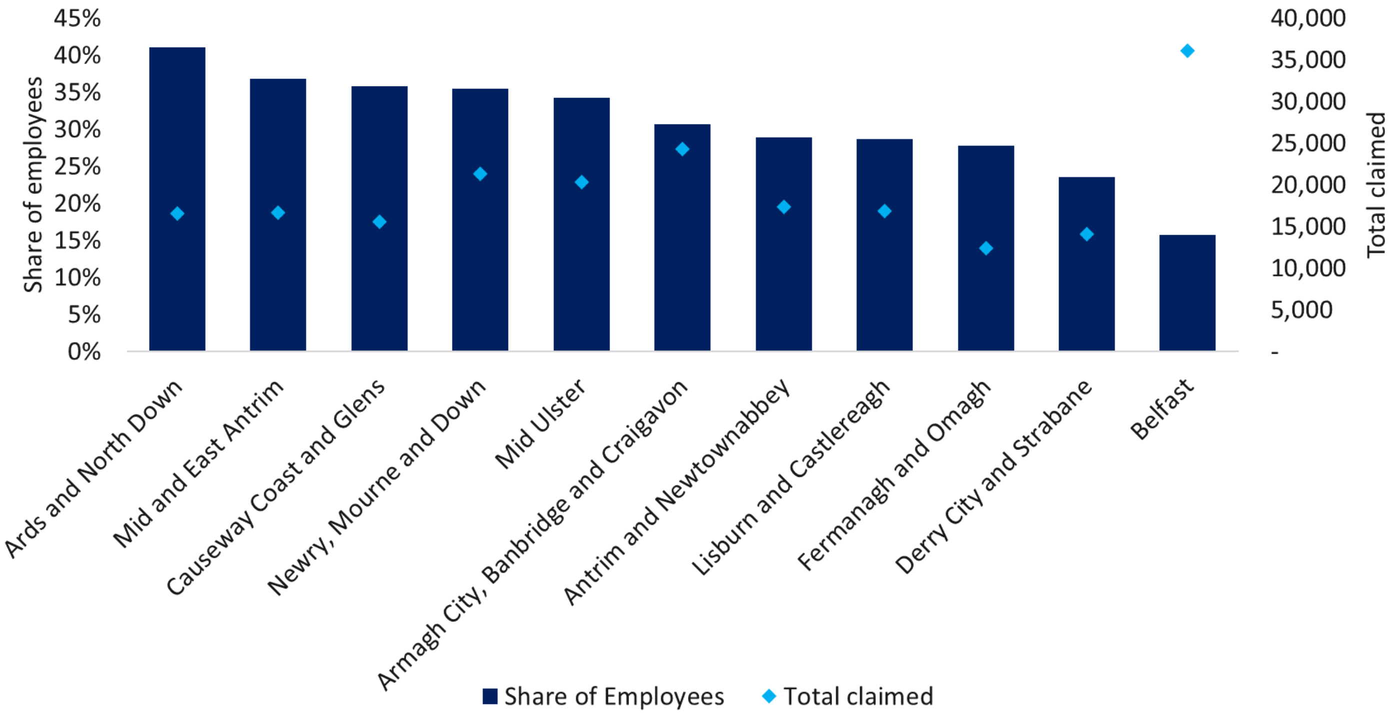
More to come as furlough scheme comes to an end?

More than a quarter of employees on furlough – tapering from the summer onwards

CJRS uptake by Council area, as of 31st May 2020



- Approx. 212,000 jobs have been furloughed in NI
- Equivalent to 27% of employee jobs in NI
- Belfast (16% of employees) least relatively impacted
- Ards and North Down (41% of employees) has the largest share of employees on furlough

Source: HMRC, ONS workforce jobs

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A Council-level Perspective

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Estimates of Annual 2020 Economic Impacts

GVA in Derry City & Strabane is expected to fall by 9.5% in 2020 – an enormous loss to the local economy

COVID-19 GVA Impact, NI Local Councils, 2020

	GVA % Q2 Decline	GVA % Annual Decline
Mid Ulster	-38.2%	-16.3%
Mid and East Antrim	-38.0%	-15.2%
Causeway Coast and Glens	-32.2%	-13.3%
Fermanagh and Omagh	-30.4%	-11.9%
Newry, Mourne and Down	-30.2%	-12.0%
Northern Ireland	-28.4%	-11.6%
Antrim and Newtownabbey	-27.6%	-11.5%
Belfast	-26.4%	-10.6%
Ards and North Down	-26.3%	-10.6%
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	-25.9%	-10.6%
Derry City and Strabane	**-23.6%**	**-9.5%**
Lisburn and Castlereagh	-21.4%	-9.3%

Source: UUEPC Analysis

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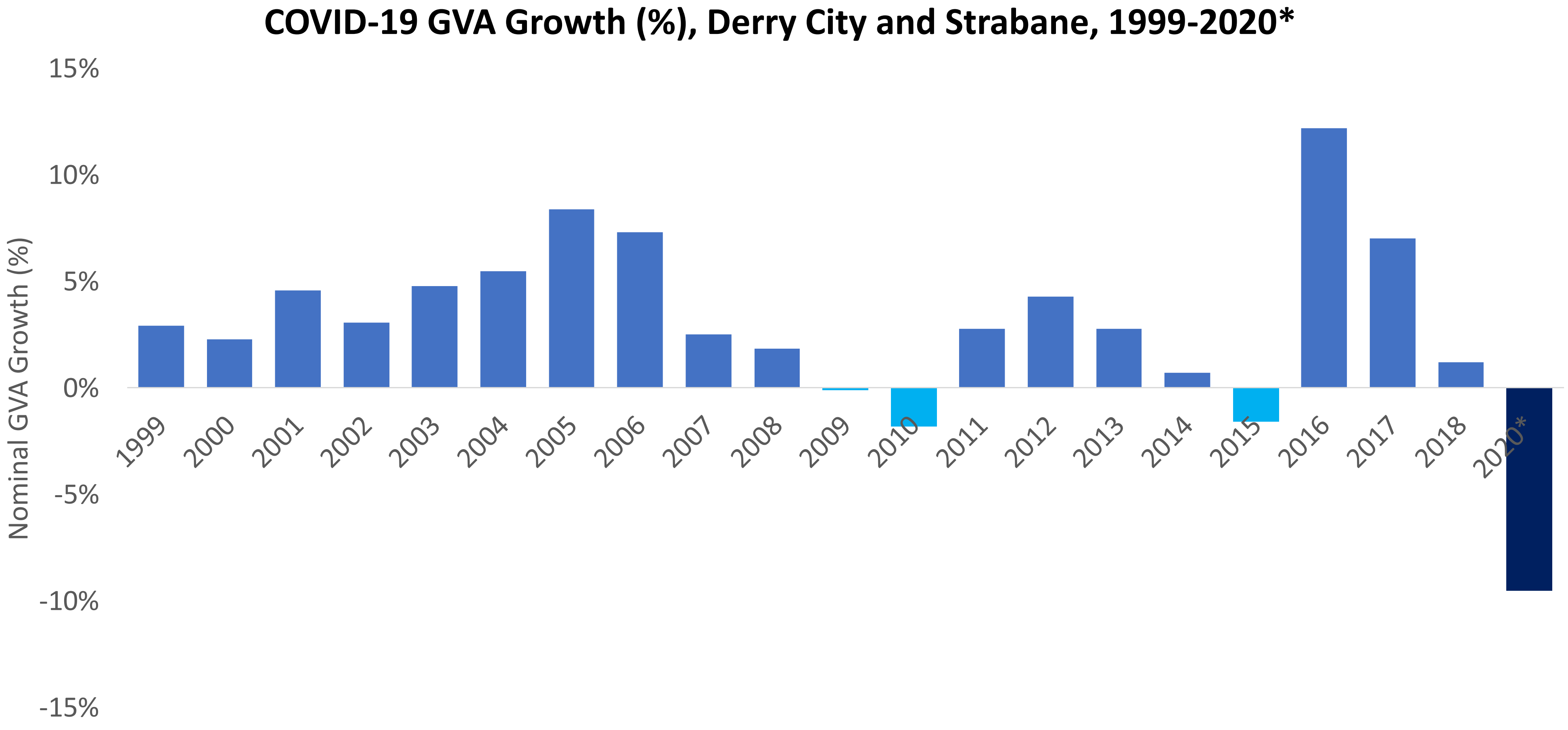
How does COVID-19 Impacts compare to previous growth?

The biggest single year contraction Derry City and Strabane has seen – even larger than the 2008-09 recession. Sectorally concentrated but felt across every firm and household



Source: UUEPC Analysis & ONS (Regional GVA (balanced) by industry (19 December 2019)
Note: 2020* represents the GVA estimated annual decline from the impacts of COVID-19

Labour Market Impacts: Furloughs & Laid Off

More than a quarter (28%) of workplace jobs in Derry City & Strabane are at risk of Furlough or Lay Off – HMRC recorded 14,100 jobs furloughed on 31 May

No. of Jobs Potentially Furloughed & Laid Off, NI Local Councils, Q4 2019

	Total Employees Q4 2019 (Estimates)	Total Furloughed & Laid Off Employees Q4 2019 (Estimates)	% Difference
Belfast	232,800	67,200	-28.9%
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	79,400	25,200	-31.7%
Newry, Mourne and Down	63,800	22,000	-34.5%
Ards and North Down	38,300	12,400	-32.4%
Derry City and Strabane	**57,100**	**15,900**	**-27.8%**
Mid Ulster	59,500	22,900	-38.5%
Causeway Coast and Glens	42,100	14,300	-34.0%
Antrim and Newtownabbey	65,900	21,200	-32.2%
Lisburn and Castlereagh	61,000	19,600	-32.1%
Mid and East Antrim	46,500	15,800	-34.0%
Fermanagh and Omagh	42,200	13,000	-30.8%
Northern Ireland	788,600	249,500	-31.6%

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Source: UUEPC Analysis & BRES

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Concluding Thoughts

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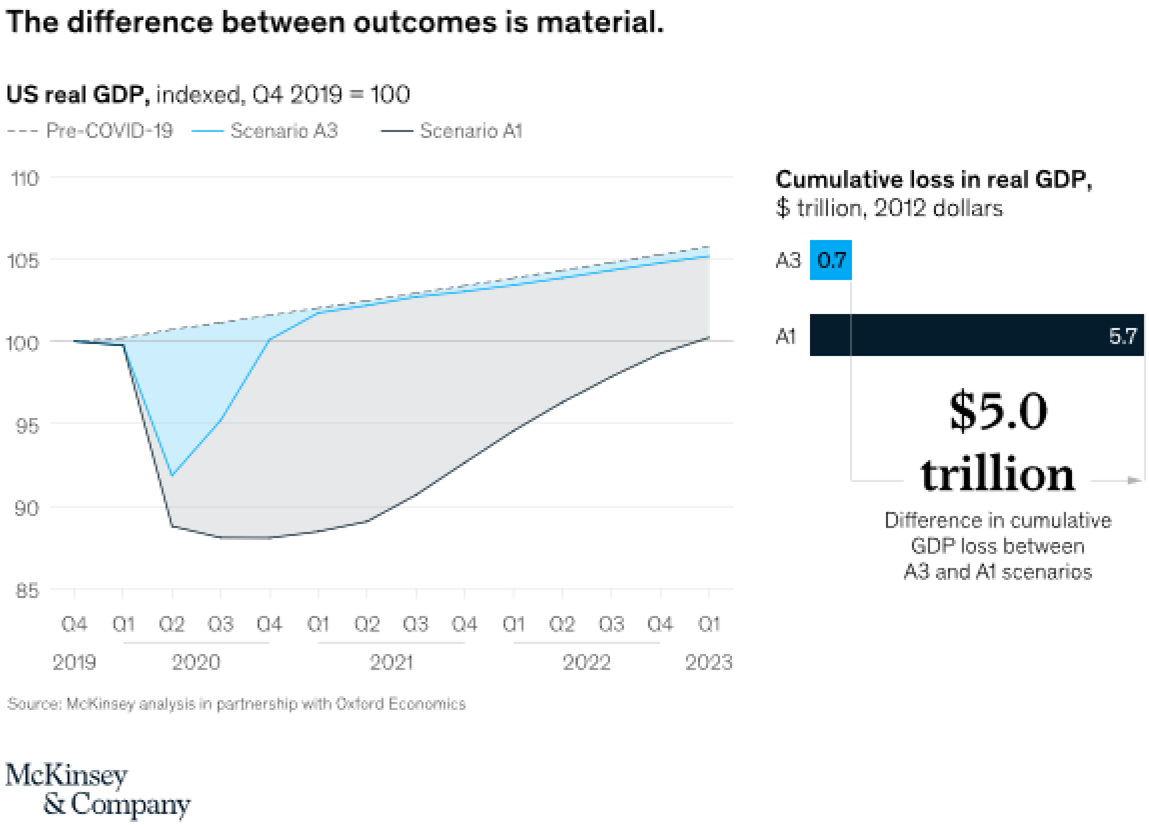
What does the future hold?

The shape of the recovery is both uncertain and critical

Two different scenarios for the US (and other) economies, June 2020



- Now seeing the re-opening of the economy with capacity in some sectors curtailed for a significant period to come
- Wide band of forecasts reflects the uncertainty over the next period – second wave or not
- Greatest uncertainty around the extent to which domestic and global demand will return or will expectations be dampened?
- Need for continued support for employers and employees in reopening period but fiscal limits

Conversations on recovery…

Is this time really different?

- Whole of the global economy slowly ground to a halt in Q1 2020 no matter what stage of the business cycle national and local economies were at

- Government responses have been unprecedented in economic and fiscal terms – and may continue in the recovery period

- Forecasts of a 12% decline in the economies North and South in 2020 with recovery to previous peak taking 2-3 years

- Understanding that some of those sectors which drove job creation in the last recovery (including tourism and retail) cannot be relied on in the short term to do this and that these are different jobs

- Does to crisis mark both the need to accelerate delivery of plans (SGP and City Deal) and the need to ‘reset’ these to reflect an employment crisis?

Thank You

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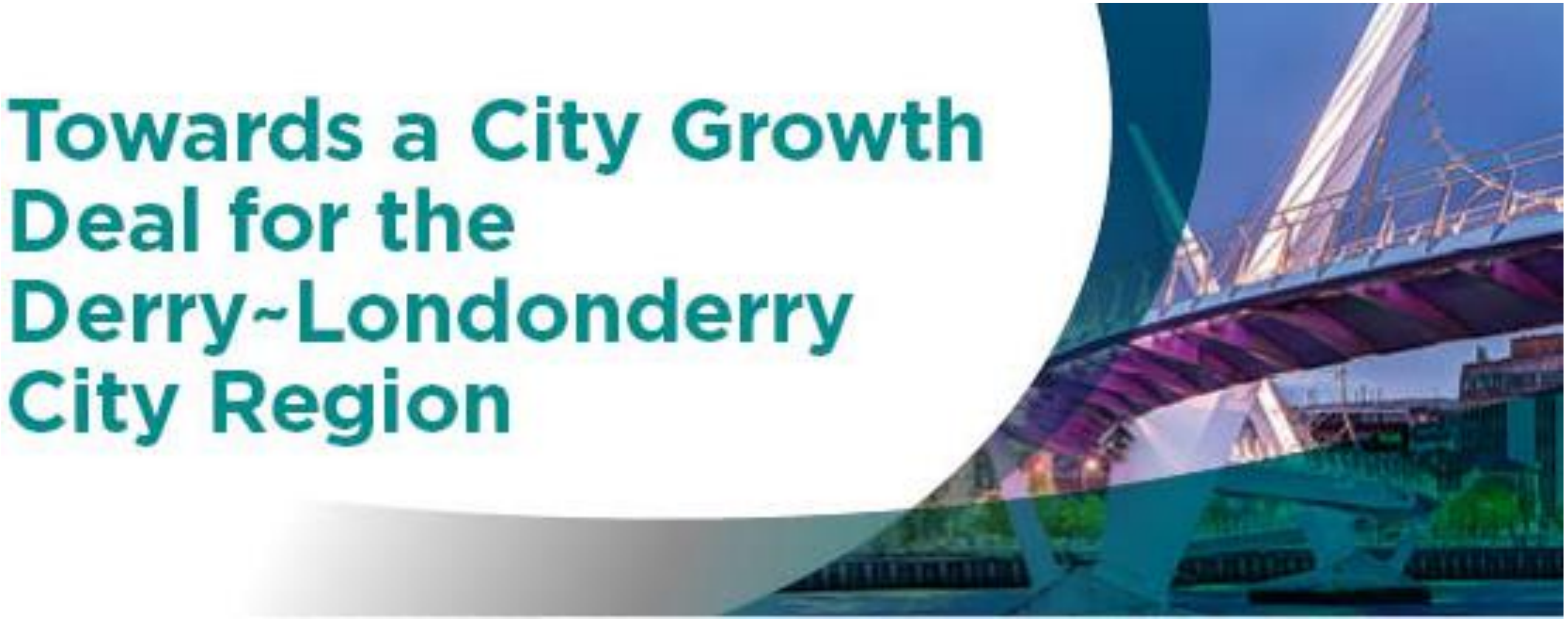
8. City Deal/Strategic Growth Projects Update



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9. Strategic Growth Plan Progress & Performance Update

Progress Report

- 231 Actions & Sub-actions
  - 7% - Complete
  - 79% - On track to be delivered as planned
  - 11% - Progressing at a slower rate than originally planned
  - 3% - Status unknown or unreported.

54 Population Indicators

- Indicative change from data recorded at the beginning of Plan (2017)
  - 32 ↑
  - 15 ↓
  - 7 ↔

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10. Youth Participatory Budgeting COVID-19 Update

YOUth Making it Happen Participatory Budget Project

- First Youth co-designed PB project in NI
- Themes, Criteria, branding and promotion agreed by Youth co-design group

Impact of COVID-19

- Revised timeline - Extended to end of March 2021 in line with overall CUK 'Embedding Wellbeing in NI Project'
- Reduction in Awards budget - £8,000 in total i.e. £1,000 per Local Growth Area Partnership Area
- Revised budget allocation to be agreed by youth co-design panel (subject to approval by SGP)

13. Forward Schedule of Meetings

Date	Venue
Thursday 22nd October 2020	Tbc

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