

## **Coast to Capital Employment Snapshot - January 2016**

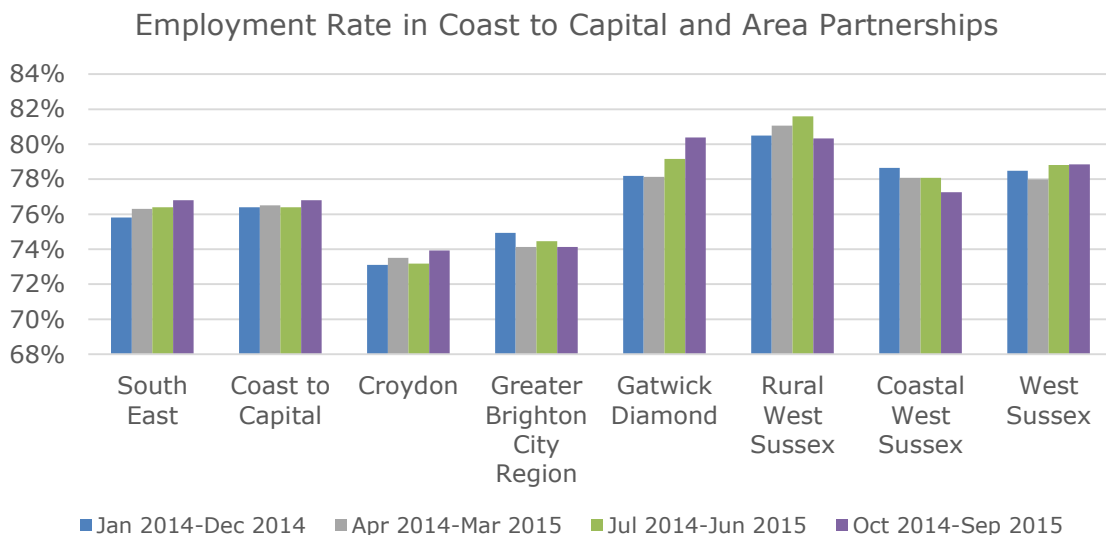
**Note:** the most recent data available at this level covers October 2014 to September 2015, this should not be compared to the most recent national release by the ONS which covers September to November 2015.

### **Main Points:**

- Coast to Capital regional Employment Rate grew by 0.4%, up to 76.8% - the second highest rate since June 2008
- 937,900 residents in the Coast to Capital region are now in employment – a 3,800 increase since last quarter
- Coast to Capital regional Unemployment Rate fell by 0.9%, to 3.8% - the joint lowest rate since March 2008
- The number of unemployed residents in the Coast to Capital region is 38,900 – a fall of 9,400 since last quarter

## **EMPLOYMENT**

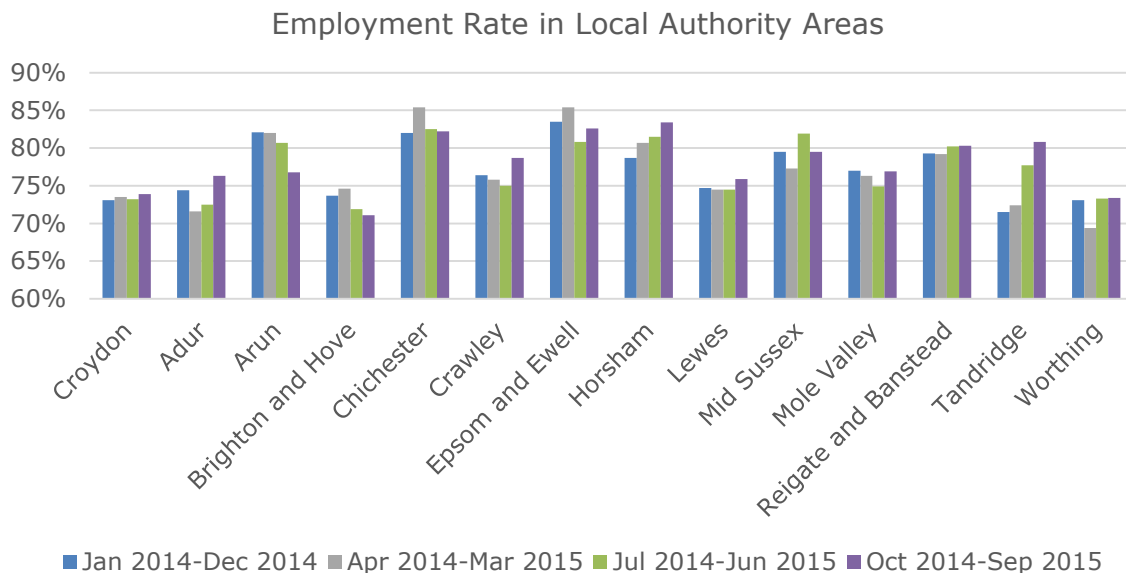
Since the previous quarter the employment rate has risen by 0.4% in the Coast to Capital region, up to 76.8%, and the number of people in employment has increased by 3,800 and there are now 937,900 people in employment. The employment rate is at its second highest point since June 2008, when the employment rate was 76.9%. The South East region has had a rise of 0.4% to 76.8% since the last quarter.



**Figure 1 – Employment Rate in the Coast to Capital region - Source: Annual population survey January 2016**

Across the Area Partnerships<sup>1</sup> employment has risen over the last quarter in Croydon and the Gatwick Diamond, increasing by 0.7% and 1.2% respectively, exposing local variances in employment performance. The Gatwick Diamond area has overtaken the Rural West Sussex area as having the highest employment rate (80.4%). Rural West Sussex, Coastal West Sussex, and the Greater Brighton City region have experienced declines in employment rates within those areas. In West Sussex it has remained the same.

Rural West Sussex had the largest fall since last quarter (down 1.3%) in part because it had the furthest to fall, but remains the area with the second highest employment rate of 80.3%. In Coastal West Sussex the employment rate fell by 0.8%, down to 77.3%, and the Greater Brighton City region had a 0.3% fall in its employment rate, down to 74.1%.



**Figure 2 – Employment Rates in Local Authorities – Source: Annual population survey January 2016**

Figure 2 shows the employment rate at the Local Authority level and highlights the local variations. There have been notable increases in employment rates in Adur (3.8%), Crawley (3.7%), Tandridge (3.1%), and Mole Valley (2%). Both Arun and Mid Sussex are notable for the falls in employment rates, down by 3.9% and 2.4% respectively, and in particular Arun as the employment rate has fallen for three quarters in a row, similarly the employment rate in Brighton and Hove has fallen in the last two quarters.

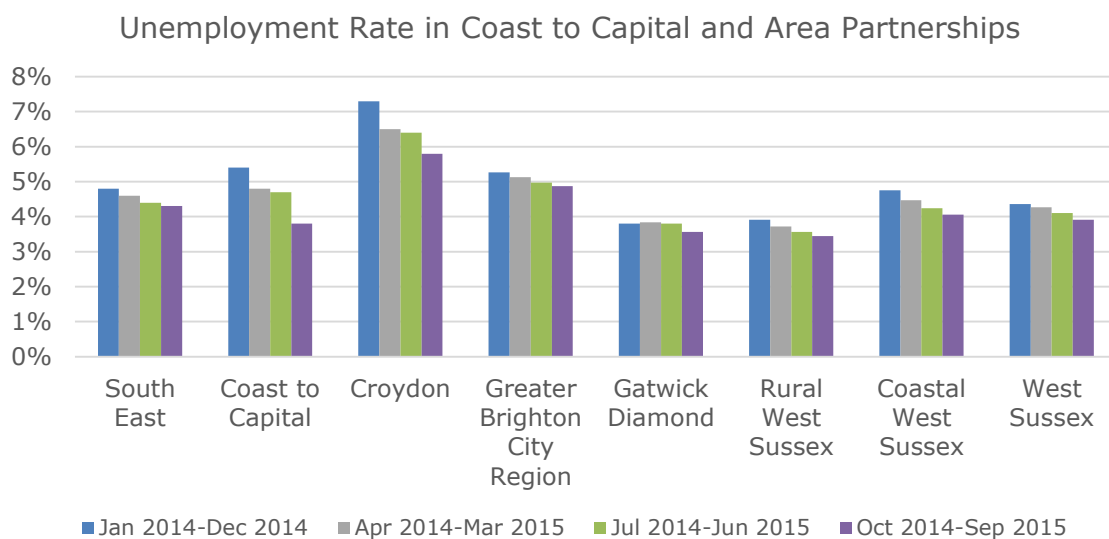
One off rises or falls in the employment rate should be treated with caution as the margin for error increases at lower geographic levels, such as Local Authority areas. Focusing more on the trends of the last four quarters highlights good performance in Croydon, Horsham, Tandridge, and Reigate and Banstead. As

<sup>1</sup> More information about the make-up of the Area Partnerships is at the end of the document

previously noted downward trends are found in Arun and Brighton and Hove, although only in the last two quarters for Brighton and Hove.

## UNEMPLOYMENT

The Coast to Capital unemployment rate is now 3.8%, down 0.9% since last quarter and the unemployment rate is now the joint lowest rate since 2004, the previous lowest rate was March 2008. The number of people in unemployment is now 38,900, down by 9,400 since last quarter. The South East unemployment rate is 4.3%, down by 0.1% on the last quarter.

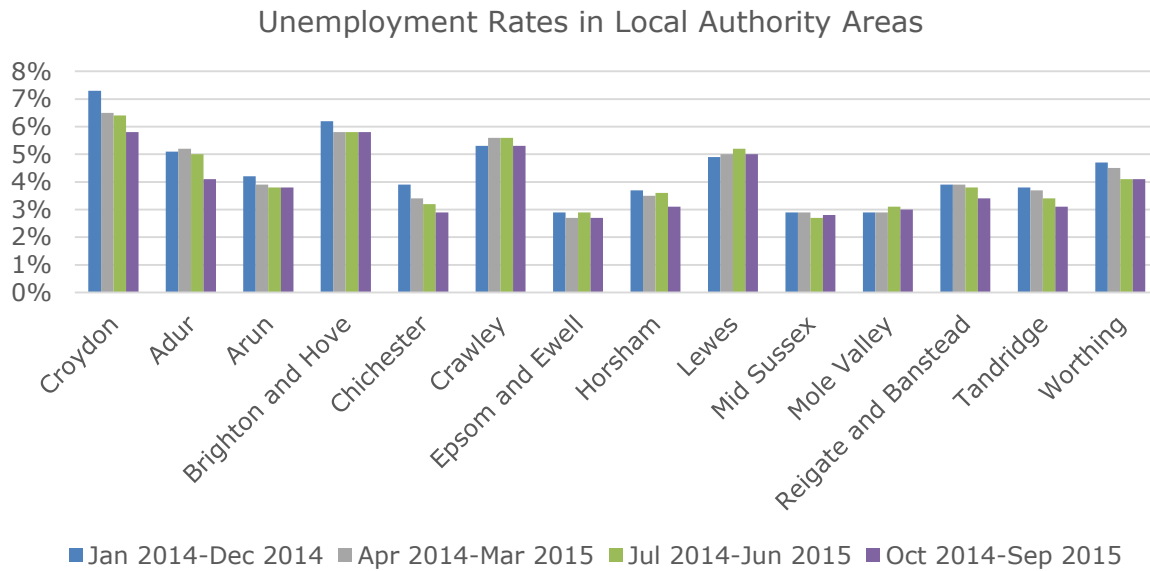


**Figure 3 – Unemployment Rate in the Coast to Capital region – Source: Annual population survey model based unemployment January 2016**

In the Area Partnerships there have been consistent decreases across the four quarters, in particular Croydon's unemployment rate has fallen by 1.5% down to 5.8% over this period. Croydon has also experienced the largest decrease in unemployment in the last quarter (0.6%). Across the other Area Partnerships the unemployment rate has fallen by 0.1% to 0.2%. Rural West Sussex has the lowest unemployment rate at 3.4%, followed by the Gatwick Diamond at 3.6%, West Sussex at 3.9%, Coastal West Sussex at 4.1%, the Greater Brighton City Region at 4.9%, and Croydon at 5.8%.

At Local Authority level most areas have had consistent downward trends in the unemployment rate although there are some variations. Brighton and Hove has remained at 5.8% over the last three quarters, Crawley has risen from 5.3% to 5.6% and then fallen back again to 5.3% over the last four quarters, the unemployment rate in Lewes rose in two of the last four quarters, as has Mole Valley. In the last quarter there were notable drops in the unemployment rate for

Adur (0.9%), Croydon (0.6%), and Horsham (0.5%). Mid Sussex is the one area where unemployment has risen, up by 0.1%.



**Figure 4 – Unemployment Rate in Local Authorities – Source: Annual population survey model based unemployment January 2016**

Oct 2014-Sep 2015	Employment Rate	Unemployment Rate
South East	76.8%	4.3%
Coast to Capital	76.8%	3.8%
Croydon	73.9%	5.8%
Greater Brighton City Region	74.1%	4.9%
Gatwick Diamond	80.4%	3.6%
Rural West Sussex	80.3%	3.4%
Coastal West Sussex	77.3%	4.1%
West Sussex	78.8%	3.9%
Croydon	73.9%	5.8%
Adur	76.3%	4.1%
Arun	76.8%	3.8%
Brighton and Hove	71.1%	5.8%
Chichester	82.2%	2.9%
Crawley	78.7%	5.3%
Epsom and Ewell	82.6%	2.7%
Horsham	83.4%	3.1%
Lewes	75.9%	5.0%
Mid Sussex	79.5%	2.8%
Mole Valley	76.9%	3.0%
Reigate and Banstead	80.3%	3.4%
Tandridge	80.8%	3.1%
Worthing	73.4%	4.1%

**Table 1 – Employment and Unemployment Rates in the Coast to Capital Region July 2014 to June 2015: Source: Annual population survey and model based unemployment October 2015**

## **Area Partnerships:**

For data purposes these partnerships have been built up using the Local Authority areas that they cover, a list is below. It should be noted that some of these partnerships overlap and some Local Authority areas are counted in both, for this reason the Area Partnership data will not add up to the Coast to Capital regional data. The Gatwick Diamond, Rural West Sussex, and Coastal West Sussex all have areas that overlap.

It should also be noted that in Rural West Sussex the Arun and Mid Sussex Local Authorities are not classified as rural and that data for Rural West Sussex includes the urban centres within those Local Authorities. Currently there are no regularly updated datasets for locations below Local Authority level, which makes it impossible to provide up to date data for strictly rural areas. This necessitates the use of the broader Local Authority areas to make up Rural West Sussex.

Similarly Chichester is largely rural but is also part of the Coastal West Sussex Partnership and as such those rural areas are included in data for Coastal West Sussex.

Brighton & Hove and Lewes has now been expanded to reflect the Greater Brighton City Region, this involves further overlaps of Local Authority Areas. Mid Sussex is now in Rural West Sussex, the Gatwick Diamond, and the Greater Brighton City Region, and Adur and Worthing are now both in the Coastal West Sussex partnership and the Greater Brighton City Region.

Croydon	The Greater Brighton City Region	The Gatwick Diamond	Rural West Sussex	Coastal West Sussex
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Croydon</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Brighton and Hove</li> <li>•Lewes</li> <li>•Adur</li> <li>•Mid Sussex</li> <li>•Worthing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Crawley</li> <li>•Epsom and Ewell</li> <li>•Horsham</li> <li>•Mid Sussex</li> <li>•Mole Valley</li> <li>•Tanbridge</li> <li>•Reigate and Banstead</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Arun</li> <li>•Chichester</li> <li>•Horsham</li> <li>•Mid Sussex</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Adur</li> <li>•Arun</li> <li>•Chichester</li> <li>•Worthing</li> </ul>