Shared Tourism Service

Philippa Lowe Business Manager Localities Your Local Visitor Economy: Volume and Value

Cotswold
568k
1.82m
£133m
£235
6.8m
£222m
£33
£361m
7,286
18%

Visitor Economy Spend: Cotswold District Council

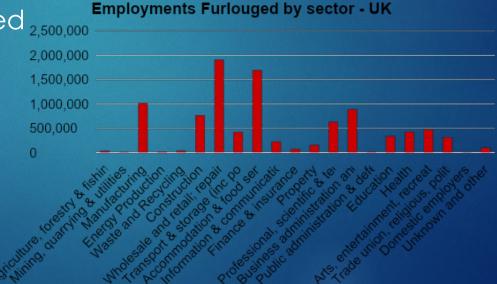
The Value to our economy...

- Attractions £50m
 - Day visitors £36m, Staying £14m
- Accommodation £51m
- Shopping / Retail £79m
 - Day visitors £59m, Staying £21m
- Food & drink £123m
 - Day visitors £94m, Staying £29m

The impact of Covid-19

The visitor economy came to an almost complete halt in March

- Accommodation: closed except a few for key workers
- Attractions: little opportunity to diversify
- Food & drink: a few were able to offer takeaway services
- Retail: best placed to move to online sales but most visitor related sales are either low value or impulse buys
- High levels furloughed 2,500,000
- Events cancelled



Visitor Economy: Covid-19 effects

- Overseas visitors
 - Unlikely to reach 2019 levels until 2024
- Limited operating capacity
 - Most hospitality businesses operating at 50-70% capacity
 - Often shorter opening hours/appointment only
- Increased costs
 - Cleaning, table service not self-service, PPE
- Fewer volunteers
 - Generally older and more vulnerable to Covid-19

Visitor Economy: On-going Challenges/Risks

- Redundancies as furlough ends
- Insolvency threat for businesses especially
 - If reliant on business, wedding or events markets
 - If reliant on overseas visitors
 - Sectors which still can't operate or operate easily
 - More seasonal businesses that missed a key part of their operating season
- Changing visitor profiles and demographics
- Local sensibilities around incoming visitors

Shared Service: Team Resources



Note: Tourism Digital Officer – 22 hours (vacant since March 2017)

Tourism Team Work 2020 / 21

- Business recovery efforts (see next slide: Contribution to Covid-19 recovery)
- Market town support
- Marketing and promotion of the area
- Discover England Fund Project
 - Project to spread visits geographically and seasonally
- Business Engagement
 - Networking and Local Connexion (business interaction)
 - Support local businesses
- Training co-ordinate, best practice, case studies
- Publications visitor guide, bedroom browser, town guides
- Press and PR
 - Media and film enquiries

Contribution to Covid -19 Recovery

Stakeholder engagement

- Free membership and individual contact ; 23 Sector led meetings
- Consumer newsletter to 48,000
- Guidance and best practice; Messages 'know before you go'
- Support to move online and to digital

Marketing and Promotion

- Marketing skills and Networking / Business Communications
- Signposting to business support / advice / training
- Reopening of town centres

Pilot Project for Local Tour Operators and Accommodation Providers

- 'Experiences' with local business domestic packages
- Real Cotswolds working with 5 towns across two authorities: Cirencester, Tetbury, Northleach, Witney and Woodstock
- Targeting Overseas residents particularly in London
- Local staycation market
- Digital Connectivity