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**INSTITUTE OF BUSINESS, INDUSTRY AND LEADERSHIP (IBIL)  
UNIVERSITY OF CUMBRIA**

**CRED ECONOMIC BULLETIN No. 6**

**Corporate change in the Cumbrian Economy: Third Quarter (July - Sep.) 2020**

**cred**  
Research

University of  
**Cumbria** 

**CRED Research Nov. 2020**  
**Contact: Dr Gail Mulvey**

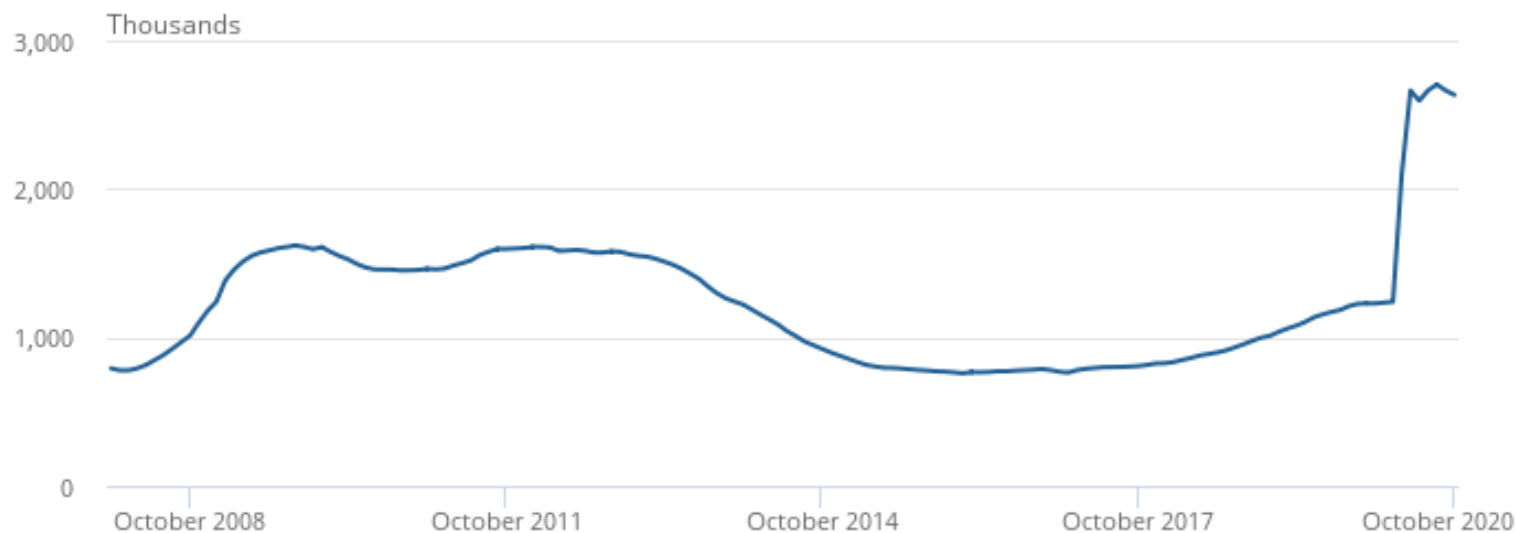
## **MACRO-ECONOMIC OVERVIEW**

Key data for the third quarter of 2020 released on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020 confirms the severity of the impact of Coronavirus restrictions on the economy during 2020. GDP faltered in the first quarter recording a fall of -2.5% on the previous quarter. The first national lockdown in quarter 2, however, recorded a massive fall of -18.8% in GDP. The service economy shrank by -19.2% while manufacturing was slightly worse still, a fall of -21.1%. Lockdown measures were eased during quarter three and the estimates of the scale of recovery had been eagerly anticipated. There was indeed some recovery to report with overall growth of GDP of 15.5%, slightly stronger in manufacturing (+18.7%) than in services (+14.2%). However, the size of economy as measured by GDP was still 9.7% smaller compared to the same quarter in 2019. With the onset of the second national lockdown in November 2020, prospects for the year remain pessimistic. Average forecasts for GDP for 2020 as a whole average -10.2%, though ranging between -6.6% and -12.5%.

Due to measures taken by government to protect jobs and the ability of many employees to work from home, the employment rate has remained fairly high, although there has been a slight fall in the third quarter (down from 76.4% to 75.3%). The LFS unemployment rate also remained constant through quarters 1 and 2 (3.9%). However, signs of negative impacts associated with the anticipated end of the furlough scheme have begun to affect the data. The LFS unemployment rate rose in quarter 3 to 4.8% nationally. The official UK Claimant Count (Individuals who are unemployed and claiming job seeker allowance or other unemployment-related benefits) also showed an unprecedented rise from 1.2m in March 2020 up to 2.7m by August 2020.

**Figure 1: UK Claimant Count October 2008 to October 2020**

UK Claimant Count, seasonally adjusted, between January 2008 and October 2020

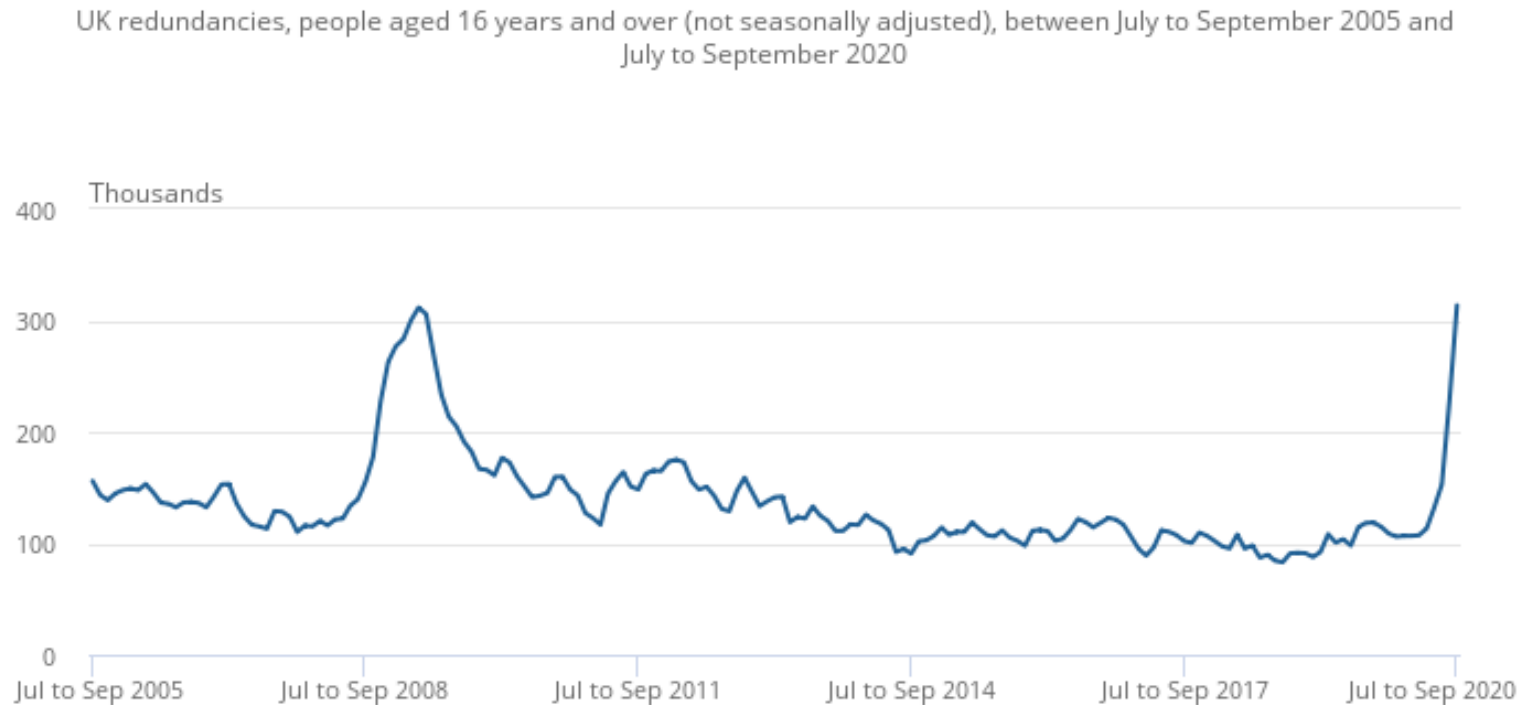


**Source: Department for Work and Pensions reported in ONS Labour Market Review November 2020**

Despite the fact that the Furlough Scheme has now been extended to cover the period right through to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, the anticipated end of the original furlough scheme on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020 had some unintended, though perhaps predictable, consequences. Employers had to make plans on the expectation of the cessation of support and this produced a very significant national increase in the level of redundancy announcements. In the third quarter of 2020 as a whole, estimates based on the Labour Force Survey suggest that there were over 313,000 redundancies (compulsory and voluntary

combined) recorded which exceeds the levels recorded during the worst quarter of the financial crisis (Feb. to Apr. 2009). It is not yet clear how this will affect levels of unemployment in the coming months.

**Fig 2: LFS Estimates of UK Redundancies July 2005 to September 2020 (3 month moving average).**



**Source: Labour Force Survey reported in ONS Labour Market Review, November 2020**

## SELECTED NATIONAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	<b>Q1 2020</b>	<b>Q2 2020</b>	<b>Q3 2020</b>	<b>2020 Forecasts in October <sup>(ii)</sup></b>
<b>Gross Domestic Product <sup>(i)</sup></b>	<i>Down -2.5% on previous 3 months</i>	<i>Down -19.8% on previous 3 months</i>	<i>Up 15.5% on previous 3 months</i>	<i>Average -10.2% ranging from -12.5% to -6.6%</i>
<b>Manufacturing output <sup>(i)</sup></b>	<i>Down -1.8% on previous quarter</i>	<i>Down -21.1% on previous quarter</i>	<i>Up 18.7% on previous quarter</i>	
<b>Services output <sup>(i)</sup></b>	<i>Down -2.3% on previous quarter</i>	<i>Down -19.2% on previous quarter</i>	<i>Up 14.2% on previous quarter</i>	
<b>Annual inflation (CPIH) <sup>(iii)</sup></b>	<i>1.5% year to March 2020</i>	<i>0.8% year to June 2020</i>	<i>0.7% year to September 2020</i>	
<b>Employment rate <sup>(iv)</sup></b>	76.6%	76.4%	75.3%	
<b>LFS Unemployment <sup>(iv)</sup></b>	3.9%	3.9%	4.8%	
<b>Base Interest rate</b>	<i>Reduced to 0.25% (11<sup>th</sup> March) then to 0.1% (19<sup>th</sup> March)</i>	0.1%	0.1% Next review 17 <sup>th</sup> December	

(i) ONS - GDP first quarterly estimates July to September 2020 (data released 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020)

(ii) HM Treasury, Forecasts for the UK Economy release October 2020)

(iii) ONS Consumer Price Index (latest data release 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020)

(iv) ONS Labour market review UK various issues 2020

## **CORPORATE CHANGE IN CUMBRIA: JULY-SEPTEMBER 2020**

The third quarter of 2020 has seen firms right across the County adjusting to the new circumstances in which they find themselves due to the Covid-19 (C) pandemic. Some have re-emerged after lockdown and seen a welcome increase in custom, way above normal levels, due to pent-up demand and the trend towards staycations (Hospitality sector). Others, unfortunately, have been unable to recover losses incurred during lockdown and/or stem the declining trend in custom and have closed as a result (Retail and Hospitality sectors). All firms, no matter the sector, have had to adjust working practices and modes of operation in order to comply with Government rules on social distancing and covid security in the workplace. The ability to absorb the increased costs incurred from the ongoing pandemic will vary from sector to sector and firm to firm depending on many factors such as:

- Business size
- Continuity of operation through the pandemic
- Ability to obtain funding through Government support schemes
- Degree of innovation and investment undertaken.

It is this large degree of variability in coping strategies between firms that has led to a large variance in outcomes for firms (and hence news reports) **within** sectors, such that sectoral generalisations are hard to make (see Table 2).

A high degree of churn can be seen in the Wholesale and Retail sector where there are a number of firm closures (see The Little Gin Shop, Clarks, Holland & Barrett, Dorothy Perkins, PFK) as well as reports of new firms or branches opening (see Letterbox PPE, M&S, St. Mary's Hospice, The Zero Pantry, Screwfix) in Table 3. Of note is the finding that those businesses which have been reported as permanently closed, have been located in the high streets of Penrith and Carlisle whilst those reported as opening have been located in the Lake District and West Cumbria. Those businesses which have closed have

blamed “a poor economic and trading climate off the back of the Covid-19 lockdown” (IC, 4.9.20) tied in with the inability to continue paying rent on shop leases.

A similarly high degree of churn is visible in the Accommodation and Food Services sector. Many firms operating in this sector used the lockdown as an opportunity to invest in/refurbish their premises (see Green Acres Caravan Park, The Huntsman, Netherby Hall, The Pooley Bridge Inn, The Old Bank, Granny Dowbekin’s, The Consiston Inn) along with making changes to layouts so as to comply with social distancing rules. Such adaptations include, for example, those done by Joe Bananas. The owners of the pub in Whitehaven changed the business model so that when it re-opened with the easing of lockdown restrictions in July, it opened as a cocktail bar with a new beer garden. Their idea was to create the “relaxed atmosphere of a lounge bar so that customers can maintain social distancing whilst not having to go to the bar or stand by it to collect their drinks” (IC, 1.7.20). There is evidence to suggest that those businesses which are able to innovate in this way have seen the dividends. For example, the Pooley Bridge Inn which has invested £1M in a transformation has seen “rocketing beer sales – up 70% on last August” (IC, 10.9.20). Unfortunately, those businesses which are unable to adapt their premises to accommodate social distancing measures and remain economically viable, have permanently closed (see The Rose and Crown Inn, The Pompeii Steakhouse). Notably, there has been a spate of take-aways opening- a means by which the 2-metre rule can be avoided (see New Taste, Burger King, Thai Kitchen).

There is also a mixed picture in the Entertainment and Recreation sector with, for example, Dove Cottage and Alston Moor Fitness Club, seeing considerable investment whilst others (see Theatre by the Lake, The Coro Hall) have had to lay off workers to be able to survive their temporary closure.

The Manufacturing sector, on the other hand, has seen no reported closures and only two instances of lay-offs (see Oxley Group, James Cropper). There are reports of engineering firms and those in the Food sector that have been busy continuing to innovate, invest and grow (see Cranstons, DM Engineering, Lovingly Artisan, Createc, Delkia). Some have been on the



receiving end of increased demand for certain products and services directly due to the C-19 pandemic. For example, Lovingly Artisan, bakers at Plumgarth, “have seen an increase in demand for their speciality breads due to lockdown as locals have used them for the first time rather than go to the supermarket for their bread. They also innovated by replacing their baking workshops with an online baking club which they set up on their Facebook page” (IC, 10.7.20). Brod Pod, Penrith, which ordinarily designs magnetic therapy products for animals and people “has designed a face mask which Bournemouth University has said provides barrier protection properties that are more effective than the FFP2 face masks worn by NHS staff. The masks uniquely incorporate 10mm of woven filament fabric and are structured to prevent the inner surface from coming into contact with the nostrils and mouth so as to reduce the risk of high viral transmission into the respiratory tract” (IC, 22.7.20).

Traditionally, recessions see a shake-out of firms in an economy and this is being seen in Cumbria (as is the case elsewhere in the world). However, disasters (such as floods, Foot & Mouth and coronavirus) also bring winners and those firms which are able to take advantage of increased demand for certain products and services can remain resilient in these otherwise very difficult times.

Notes:

IC – In-Cumbria online newsletter.

**Table 2: Reported Jobs Gained/Lost; Investment/Innovation; Disinvestment/Closure and Acquisitions by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Grouping**

	SIC Code	Jobs		Firms engaged in				
		To be gained	To be lost	Investment	Innovation	Disinvestment	Closure	Acquisition / Merger
<b>Manufacturing</b>	C		18	Wax Lyrical; Jacobs; John Fisher Nuclear; Sellafield Ltd; Stringers	Cranstons; DM Engineering; Lovingly Artisan; Brod Pod; Createc; Delkia; BAE Systems.	Oxley Group; James Cropper		
<b>Construction</b>	F				Henson Civil Engineering Ltd.			
<b>Wholesale and Retail Trade</b>	G	160	6	Ghyll House Upholstery & Design; John Watt & Son; Letterbox PPE; M&S; Lakeland; St. Mary's Hospice; The Zero Pantry; Screwfix; Frungo; CoOp; Amazon	NW Consumables; Herdy; K&S McKenzie		The Little Gin Shop; Clarks; Holland & Barrett; Dorothy Perkins; PFK	
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>	H				Letterbox Smart Cumbria	Stobart Group		
<b>Accommodation and Food Services</b>	I	84	10	Green Acres Caravan Park; The Huntsman; New Taste; Burger King; Netherby Hall; Travelodge; The Swan; Thai Kitchen; Farlam Hall; The Coniston Inn; The Golden Lion; South Lakes Housing; The Pooley Bridge Inn; The Old Bank	Joe Bananas; The Hive		The Pompeii Steakhouse; The Rose and Crown Inn; The Railway Inn; The Sharrow Bay Hotel	
<b>Financial and Insurance Activities</b>	K	15		MoynanSmith; Armstrong Watson				
<b>Real Estate</b>	L	20	15	Hackney and Leigh; Hunters	H & H Group	H & H Group		

<b>Professional, Scientific &amp; Technical Activities</b>	M			Jacobs	Kreative Living Ltd.			
<b>Administrative and Support Service Activities</b>	N			Alston Accommodation Business Forum; Kendal Futures; Mitieclean				
<b>Public Administration, Defence &amp; Social Security</b>	O			Barrow Borough Council; The Job Centre; the NDA				
<b>Education</b>	P		177		University of Cumbria		Newton Rigg	
<b>Human Health &amp; Social Work Activities</b>	Q	18		Alertacall		Eden Valley Hospice		
<b>Arts, Entertainment &amp; Recreation</b>	R		38	Dove Cottage; Alston Moor Fitness Club	Tullie House Museum & Art Gallery	Theatre by the Lake; The Coro Hall		

The data in this table is based on the author's allocations of reported job gains and losses to SIC codes and has not been verified by separate enquiry. Details reported may also contain inaccuracies and be subject to change due to circumstances.

Press reports generally do not identify how many jobs are full or part-time, hence it is not possible to provide job numbers as Full-Time Equivalents. The main source of reports is the In-Cumbria AM newsletter.

**Table 3: Jobs Gained or Lost, Investment, Innovation, Adaptation and Acquisition - Breakdown**

Date Reported	Firm Name	Location	Standard Industrial Classification	Jobs		Reported Covid-related changes				Further Detail / Investments/ New services	Other Innovation News
				To be gained	To be lost	Closure	Reduction in Production	Increase in production	Adaptation in type of products / services		
1-July-20	Letterbox Smart Cumbria	Whitehaven	Transportation and Storage					√		Plans to recruit more staff due to increased demand for its targeted mail delivery service during lockdown as local firms rethink their marketing strategies.	
1-July-20	Joe Bananas	Whitehaven	Accommodation & Food Services						√	The pub has changed its business model to that of a cocktail bar when it re-opens after the easing of lockdown restrictions in July. With a new beer garden as well, customers can maintain social distancing	
2-July-20	Jacobs	Egremont	Professional, scientific and technical activities							The international environmental specialists have won a 4-year contract to provide multi-disciplinary technical services at the LLW Repository Ltd.	
2-July-20	The Hive	Nenthead	Accommodation & Food Services							The village's arts and visitor centre re-opens with a fresh menu in the café, a new art exhibition and with the plan to have weekly themed menus from different countries.	
3-July-20	Green Acres Caravan Park	Houghton	Accommodation & Food Services							The caravan park has used the lockdown to expand and invest in the caravan site. They have built new pitches, a new toilet & shower block and hope to capitalise on an expected boom in staycations.	

Date Reported	Firm Name	Location	Standard Industrial Classification	Jobs		Reported Covid-related changes				Further Detail / Investments / New services	Other Innovation News
				To be gained	To be lost	Closure	Reduction in Production	Increase in production	Adaptation in type of products / services		
3-July-20	Alston Accommodation Business Forum	Alston	Other Service Activities							This unique accommodation business forum has been formed to enable business owners to share their knowledge, skills & expertise in order to get businesses back on track after re-opening.	
3-July-20	The Huntsman	Cockermouth	Accommodation & Food Services							A newly refurbished public house is opening.	
5-July-20	Cranstons	Penrith	Manufacturing						√	The food producer has taken on a new product developer who is working with their butchers and cooks to produce a range of ready meals & new products such as a new vegetarian roll.	
6-July-20	Henson Civil Engineering Ltd.	Near Wigton	Construction							The civil engineering co. is offering new drone services which it is hoped may be required by search & rescue operators, for surveying & for TV documentaries and news.	
6-July-20	North West Consumables	Barrow	Wholesale and Retail Trade						√	The retail store, specialising in e-cigarettes and liquids, printer ink & software, has introduced a home delivery service during lock down and is now, seeing new customers coming into the shop.	
6-July-20	New Taste	Barrow	Accommodation & Food Services							A new Chinese take-away has opened. It also does home deliveries.	

Date Reported	Firm Name	Location	Standard Industrial Classification	Jobs		Reported Covid-related changes				Further Detail / Investments/ New services	Other Innovation News
				To be gained	To be lost	Closure	Reduction in Production	Increase in production	Adaptation in type of products /		
6-July-20	DM Engineering	Maryport	Manufacturing							The mechanical engineering co. has received funds from The Made Smarter Programme in Cumbria to invest in digital technologies to boost growth.	
7-July-20	Burger King	Distington	Accommodation & Food Services	20						The food chain is opening a new restaurant, drive-thru and take-away at a new service station run by Euro Garages, in August.	
8-July-20	Lamont Pridmore	Cumbria-wide	Financial & Insurance Activities								The firm has been named "Chartered Accountants and Tax Adviser of the Year in the UK" by the 2020 Global 100 Awards.
10-July-20	Lovingly Artisan	Plumgarth	Manufacturing					√	√	The bakery has seen an increase in demand for its speciality breads due to lock down. It has also replaced its baking workshops with an online baking club, set up on Facebook	
13-July-20	Nertherby Hall	Near Longtown	Accommodation & Food Services							The provider of self-catering holiday apartments in the mansion has been renovating its Victorian stables which will provide 3 new apartments.	
14-July-20	Playdale Playgrounds	Haverthwaite	Manufacturing						√		The co. has been named in the Government's "GREAT Inspirations" Campaign for innovative work on <i>PlayClean</i> .

Date Reported	Firm Name	Location	Standard Industrial Classification	Jobs		Reported Covid-related changes				Further Detail / Investments / New services	Other Innovation News
				To be gained	To be lost	Closure	Reduction in Production	Increase in production	Adaptation in type of products / services		
14-July-20	University of Cumbria	Carlisle	Education							The university is launching the UK's first "Event risk and counter-terrorism management" course. Demand has come directly from the hospitality industry & its need to consider safety & risk mitigation.	
15-July-20	Stobart Group	Carlisle	Transport & Storage							The co. has sold its Rail Engineering division to Bavaria Industries Group, having made a loss in its Rail & Civils business of £10.1M for the FY2019-20. The Group will now focus investment on its aviation assets.	
15-July-20	Wax Lyrical	Lindal-in-Furness	Manufacturing					√		The home fragrance manufacturer is investing approx. £1M in the development of a personal care plant, annexed to its existing plant. It will launch a range of new products in Spring 2021.	The co. was named in the Government's UK "GREAT Inspirations" campaign for its swift call to action in the C-pandemic.
15-July-20	The Little Gin Shop	Carlisle	Wholesale & Retail Trade			√				The specialist gin shop has permanently closed in the wake of the C-pandemic.	
16-July-20	Oxley Group	Ulverston	Manufacturing		18		√			The high-tech LED manufacturer will cut 18 roles from its 166 workforce, blaming the effect of the C-pandemic on the Aerospace industry & the consequent need to adapt to the changed market outlook.	
18-July-20	The Pompeii Steakhouse	Carlisle	Accommodation and Food Services			√				The restaurant has closed as social distancing measures and fewer customers because of the pandemic, make the business unviable.	

Date Reported	Firm Name	Location	Standard Industrial Classification	Jobs		Reported Covid-related changes				Further Detail / Investments / New services	Other Innovation News
				To be gained	To be lost	Closure	Reduction in Production	Increase in production	Adaptation in type of products / services		
20-July-20	Hackney and Leigh	Penrith	Real Estate							The estate agents have partnered with Butterworth Solicitors and opened a new office in the town.	
21-July-20	Jacobs	Egremont	Professional, Scientific and technical activities							The provider of technical, professional and construction services and consultancy has opened a 1,320m <sup>2</sup> high-bay facility to serve a growing demand for engineering development expertise in decommissioning.	
21-July-20	Newton Rigg College	Penrith	Education		177 <sup>1</sup>					Following consultation, the FE provider has decided finally to close its Newton Rigg campus. It is suffering from financial pressures and recruitment challenges.	
21-July-20	Ghyll House Upholstery & Design	Mealsgate	Wholesale & Retail Trade					√		The design and furniture retailer has seen demand increase due to orders coming in from 3 local GP practices wishing to update waiting rooms with easy-to-clean furniture.	
22-July-20	Brod Pod	Penrith	Manufacturing							The manufacturer of magnetic therapy products has designed a face mask which Bournemouth University has said provides "barrier protection properties that are more effective than the FFP2 face masks worn by NHS staff."	
23-July-20	John Watt & Son	Carlisle	Wholesale & Retail Trade							The coffee house has spent £40,000 in a makeover of its flagship shop in Bank St., during the C-shutdown. It has re-decorated and installed improved toilet facilities.	

<sup>1</sup> The possibility of job losses at Newton Rigg was mentioned in the CRED Economic Bulletin, issue 5, p. 9. The number here has risen.



Date Reported	Firm Name	Location	Standard Industrial Classification	Jobs		Reported Covid-related changes				Further Detail / Investments / New services	Other Innovation News
				To be gained	To be lost	Closure	Reduction in Production	Increase in production	Adaptation in type of products / services		
23-July-20	Letterbox PPE	Cumbria	Wholesale & Retail Trade						√	A new co. - a partnership of Rob Statham, an operations director and Mathew Griffen, medical supplies and hospital build co. - offering a subscription service supplying PPE to households and businesses.	
27-July-20	Createc	Cockermouth	Manufacturing							The co. is leading a new project with Nuclear AMRC and TSP Engineering to develop a robotic system to inspect the most challenging welds for the next generation nuclear plants.	
27-July-20	John Fisher Nuclear	Egremont	Manufacturing							Due to new procedures necessitated by Covid-19, the firm has substantially upgraded wifi provisions in its Rig Halls in order to allow additional personnel to view the trials taking place, remotely.	
27-July-20	Delkia	Egremont	Manufacturing							The systems integration specialist is developing hardware and software to integrate different types of system so that they can function together. It is also collaborating with PWKYTEK.	
28-July-20	M&S	Ulverston	Wholesale and Retail Trade							The retail chain has opened a Food Hall at the Beehive Business Park, coinciding with the closure of their Barrow store. Most of the workers from Barrow have transferred to the new site.	
28-July-20	Hunters	Carlisle	Real Estate	20						A new estate agency covering Cumbria and SW Scotland has opened a big office.	

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28-July-20	Barrow Borough Council	Barrow	Public						√	The Council has received a grant of £1.1M from Historic England, match-funded by Barrow BID, to launch the Re:discover Barrow project, an initiative to regenerate & restore the local historic character of the area.	
29-July-20	James Cropper	Burneside	Manufacturing				√			The co. which makes luxury papers is to restructure following a sharp downturn in the first quarter of the year, resulting in a trading loss. Some roles have been put at risk of redundancy.	
29-July-20	Herdy	Kendal	Wholesale and Retail Trade						√	The gift retailer has designed and launched a "Herdy Heroes" tea towel to coincide with the 72 <sup>nd</sup> birthday of the NHS. All profits from the sales of the tea towels are going to go to local charities.	
29-July-20	Travelodge	Workington	Accommodation and Food Services	40						The hotel chain is opening its new 78-bed hotel on Monday	
3-Aug-20	H & H Group	Carlisle	Real Estate							The estate agency and land firm is launching a regular podcast on livestock, land and rural insurance news and trends.	
4-Aug-20	Theatre by the Lake	Keswick	Arts, Entertainment and Recreation		38	√				The redundancies are considered necessary to keep the theatre alive until it re-opens hopefully in 2021.	
4-Aug-20	Createc	Cockermouth	Manufacturing						√	The co. which specialises in imaging and robotics has, with the help of the "Made Smarter" programme, changed to a more flexible approach in dealing with its workforce.	

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				To be gained	To be lost	Closure	Reduction in Production	Increase in production	Adaptation in type of products / services		
4-Aug-20	Kendal Futures	Kendal	Other Service Activities							The private and public partnership has published "Kendal Vision" – a website which outlines the potential future direction and priorities for development in Kendal.	
5-Aug-20	The Swan	Newby Bridge	Accommodation and Food Services	20						The hotel is to engage in £7M of investment, building an extension which will house 30 additional bedrooms and a spa facility. Set to be completed by next Summer.	
5-Aug-20	BAE Systems Submarines	Barrow	Manufacturing						√	The co. is introducing an intensive programme of testing for the presence of C-19 in order to keep its workers and the community safe. It plans to have 5,000 workers back on site by September.	
6-Aug-20	Dove Cottage	Grasmere	Arts, Entertainment & Recreation							£6.2M from the National Lottery Heritage Fund is to be spent on the refurbishment of the tourist attraction, which will add further educational spaces and a new café to the site.	
6-Aug-20	Thai Kitchen	Kendal	Accommodation and Food Services							The restaurant will be opening its new venue at Yard 2, Stricklandgate and has also created Kendal's first drive-thru takeaway.	
10-Aug-20	Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery	Carlisle	Arts, Entertainment & Recreation						√	The museum is launching an entirely online festival, "The Festival of Hope," 17-27 <sup>th</sup> August – a platform for young creative minds.	

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				To be gained	To be lost	Closure	Reduction in Production	Increase in production	Adaptation in type of products / services		
10-Aug-20	Farlam Hall	Near Brampton	Accommodation and Food Services							The 12-bedroomed country house hotel has re-opened its doors after a major refurbishment by its new owners.	
10-Aug-20	St. Mary's Hospice	Barrow	Wholesale and Retail Trade							The charity is to open a new shop in the former "Store Twenty One" premises in Portland Walk Shopping Centre.	
10-Aug-20	Sellafield Ltd.		Manufacturing							The nuclear power company is constructing a new steam generation plant, expected to begin operating in 2023.	
11-Aug-20	The Job Centre	Cumbria-wide	Public Sector Administration					√		Run by the DWP, the Job Centre will be recruiting staff due to the increased numbers (up by 7,275 in the County) of unemployed caused by the C-pandemic in the County.	
11-Aug-20	The Zero Pantry	Kirkby Lonsdale	Wholesale and Retail Trade							A "zero-waste shop" has opened, selling foodstuffs and eco-friendly cleaning products which customers fill up on with their own re-useable containers. A number of other such shops has also opened in Kendal, Ulverston & Bowness.	
12-Aug-20	H & H Group	Carlisle	Real Estate		15		√			The co. is making people redundant across its estate agency division and printing & graphic design business, H&H Reeds, due to clients reducing expenditure on future marketing.	
12-Aug-20	Screwfix	Ulverston	Wholesale & Retail Trade							The DIY store has opened on the Ulverston Beehive Business Park.	
13-Aug-20	Frungo	Ulverston	Wholesale & Retail Trade					√		The global e-commerce store has seen turnover more than double due to lockdown fuelling online shopping. The co. now works with retailers in 32 countries who fulfil their customers' orders.	

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19-Aug-20	Createc	Cockermouth	Manufacturing							The co. will provide R&D support to the UK NDA as part of an ENVISION consortium of companies led by NUVIA. The support will focus on integrated waste management, site remediation & decommissioning.	
20-Aug-20	South Lakes Housing	Ulverston	Accommodation and Food Services							The housing provider has had the former town hall converted into 17 affordable homes to rent. The apartments are 1 & 2-bedroomed and offer high standards of energy efficiency.	
20-Aug-20	CoOp	Ambleside	Wholesale & Retail Trade						√	The store has re-opened and received a £1.6M transformation. An extension has been built, doubling its former size, boasting a free ATM, hot food and Costa Coffee point.	
27-Aug-20	The Coro Hall	Ulverston	Arts, Entertainment & Recreation		10					The music and arts venue has made staff redundant in order to ensure survival of "The Coronation Hall" in light of the C-pandemic.	
1-Sep-20	Heather Glen	Ainstable	Accommodation and Food Services						√		The hotel has won the annual Trip Advisor "Traveller's Choice Award" and is in the top 10% of hotels across the globe based on customer reviews.

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3-Sep-20	Clarks	Penrith	Wholesale and Retail Trade		6	√				The shoe store has closed. The franchise owner blames the fall in customers due to C-19 and the lease on the building is at an end.	
4-Sep-20	Holland & Barrett	Penrith	Wholesale and Retail Trade			√				The health foods retailer is closing its store on 20 <sup>th</sup> November for the same reasons as above.	
4-Sep-20	Dorothy Perkins	Penrith	Wholesale and Retail Trade			√				The clothes retailer is to close its store in the town for the same reasons as above.	
4-Sep-20	Ullswater Steamers	Pooley Bridge	Arts, Entertainment & Recreation								Ranked in the top 20 in the UK as an "historic attraction worthy of a day trip or weekend break" in a <i>Which? Magazine</i> readers' survey (Sep. issue).
5-Sep-20	The Rose and Crown Inn	Cark	Accommodation and Food Services			√				The tenants of the PH, owned by Robinsons, will be closing it in December due to the effects of the C-19 lockdown; the implications of social distancing measures & the declining pub industry.	
7-Sep-20	MoynanSmith	Carlisle	Financial & Insurance Activities							The firm of Chartered Accountants and Tax Advisors has moved into larger premises on the Parkhouse estate as it grows in size.	
7-Sep-20	Amazon	Longtown	Wholesale and Retail Trade	100						The online retailer is to take on 100 people in seasonal jobs at its delivery station on the Woodland Industrial Estate as part of its national expansion to meet growing consumer demand.	

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10-Sep-20	The Pooley Bridge Inn	Pooley Bridge	Accommodation and Food Services						√	The inn has had a £1M transformation with a rear extension, a rear and front courtyard with covered seating booths, external bar, festoon lighting & 12 newly refurbished bedrooms.	
12-Sep-20	PFK	Penrith	Wholesale and Retail Trade			√				Auctioneers Penrith Farmers' and Kidd held its final auction at its Skirsgill saleroom on the 6 <sup>th</sup> Sep. This will close permanently on 19 <sup>th</sup> October as part of a wider restructuring of the company.	
12-Sep-20	The Nuclear Decommissioning Authority	Moor Row	Public Administration							The public body has launched a new 1-year long partnership with the Nuclear Institute's Young Generation Network to support the professional development of young professionals in the nuclear industry.	
12-Sep-20	The Old Bank	Carlisle	Accommodation and Food Services						√	The restaurant has been revamped during lockdown with a new dining room, redecoration and a new menu. They have also adopted Econnects, a new visitor contactless registration system.	
14-Sep-20	K&S McKenzie	Carlisle	Wholesale and Retail Trade						√	The co. which supplies motor parts & other equipment has invested in and can supply Viro Tech mini machines "which are able to rid the air of 99.9% of surface bound and airborne viruses and bacteria" (IC 14.9.20).	
14-Sep-20	Alston Moor Fitness Club	Alston	Arts, Entertainment & Recreation					√		The community gym has seen much investment over the lockdown with a state-of-the-art gym & new equipment and they have nearly quadrupled their membership.	

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16-Sep-20	Armstrong Watson	Carlisle	Financial and Insurance Activities	15				√		The accountants have taken on new trainees who will join the accounting, audit & tax teams. The co. says it has seen a continued increase in demand as businesses seek advice on the implications of C-19.	
17-Sep-20	Eden Valley Hospice	Carlisle	Human Health & Social Work Activities				√			The charity is considering a small number of redundancies due to the loss of income faced during C-19 with a dramatic drop in donations, fundraising activities and shop revenue.	
17-Sep-20	Stringers	Ulverston	Manufacturing							The brewery has won a contract with JD Wetherspoons to provide its ale to the biggest pub chain in the UK.	
17-Sep-20	Mitieclean	Barrow	Administrative and Support Service Activities					√		The cleaning company has taken on an increasing amount of work to deep clean hospitality businesses during the C-pandemic. Their fogging machine uses an anti-bacterial viricide.	
22-Sep-20	The Golden Lion	Maryport	Accommodation and Food Services	4				√		The owner of the hotel has hired new FT staff as a result of the business boom experienced since re-opening in July – up 300% compared to the same period last year.	
23-Sep-20	Lakeland	Windermere	Wholesale and Retail Trade	60						The store is recruiting for seasonal vacancies in the run up to Christmas and has partnered with Inspira, who will run a week-long employability programme to help people to fill the roles.	



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23-Sep-20	Kreative Living Ltd	Penrith	Professional, Scientific and technical activities						√	The interior design service business has launched an online store, recognising the rise in consumer demand for online shopping due to the pandemic.	
23-Sep-20	Lakeland Artisan	Carlisle	Wholesale and Retail Trade								The co. has won six 2-star and nine 1-star Great Taste Awards run by the Guild of Fine Foods.
24-Sep-20	BAE Systems	Barrow	Manufacturing						√	The co. has re-configured its site & introduced new ways of working. It aims to get 4,500 on site at any one time and a number of these will be on split shifts.	
24-Sep-20	Alertacall	Windermere	Human Health and Social Work Activities							The co. will be taking on new people as it has seen increased demand for Alertacall equipment since the C-19 breakout.	
28-Sep-20	Granny Dowbekin's	Pooley Bridge	Accommodation and Food Services					√		The tea-room is reporting a 10% increase in business on the same time last year due to C-19 causing a rise in staycations.	They have been selected as a "Travellers' Choice" winner by Trip Advisor.
29-Sep-20	The Railway Inn	Askham	Accommodation and Food Services							The public house has closed due to the owners' retirement and the business is up for sale.	
29-Sep-20	The Coniston Inn	Coniston Water	Accommodation and Food Services							The hotel on the banks of Coniston Water has re-opened following an 18-month redevelopment and refurbishment.	

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30-Sep-20	English Lakes Ice Cream Co.	Kendal	Manufacturing						√		The co. was awarded a 2-star Great Taste Award for one of its new flavours: "Marscapone and Cherry Gelato."
30-Sep-20	The Sharrow Bay Hotel	Ullswater	Accommodation and Food Services			√				The luxury hotel is set to go into liquidation due to the current financial difficulties facing the hospitality industry with an estimated deficiency to creditors of over £2.3M.	

**Note:**

C – Covid 19