

From: Mike Whiting, Cabinet Member for Planning, Highways, Transport and Waste

Simon Jones, Director, Highways, Transportation and Waste

To: Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee – 19th March 2019

Subject: Proposed Revision to Joint Transportation Board Agreement

Non-Key Decision: 19/00020

Past Pathway of Paper: N/A

Future Pathway of Paper: For Cabinet Member Decision

Electoral Decision: All

Summary: This report sets out proposed changes to the current Joint Transportation Board (JTB) Agreement between KCC and the Districts/Boroughs.

Recommendation:

The Cabinet Committee is asked to comment and endorse or make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Planning, Highways, Transport and Waste on the proposed decision to adopt a revised JTB Agreement as shown at Appendix B.

1. Background

- 1.1 This report sets out for consideration by Cabinet Committee, a proposed decision of the Cabinet Member for Planning, Highways, Transport and Waste to formally amend the current JTB agreement. The proposed revised agreement is attached at Appendix B.
- 1.2 Joint Transportation Boards between KCC and the District/Borough Councils were established in 2005 to facilitate discussion and co-operation on local highway and transportation issues. Underpinning the JTBs is a legal agreement signed by KCC and each District/Borough.
- 1.3 Current arrangements allow for the agreement to be revised at the instigation of the Kent and Medway Chief Executives, however there is nothing in the current agreement that precludes amendments to individual agreements.
- 1.4 The Cabinet Member has met with JTB chairmen and a number of differences in practice in existing agreements were highlighted. The following section highlights the areas where the current Chairmen (see Appendix C) felt changes to the agreements could bring more clarity and uniformity across the county, which they felt would be advantageous. Guidance has been given by KCC Democratic Services.

2. Proposed changes

2.1 The most significant changes are:

- Inclusion of a formal review period set at four years to ensure agreements retain currency and consistency. (Page 3, paragraph 11).
- More clarity over the membership and role of parish council representatives at JTB (Section 2, paragraphs 2.1 to 2.3).
- A new duty for the Leader of KCC to formally ratify KCC and District/Borough Chair and Vice Chair (Section 3).
- New arrangements to implement agenda setting meetings, role of the chair to determine final agenda items, format of the agenda and maintaining a forward work programme. (Section 4, paragraphs 4.1 to 4.3) with the aim of increasing the transparency of JTB meetings to residents.
- Setting out formal rules for speaking at meetings (Section 4, paragraph 4.7).
- Setting out in Section 5, greater detail on the areas/themes which are within the remit of the JTB for discussion.
- A new section 6 for petition discussions however it should be noted that this section does not replace current governance arrangements regarding petitions at KCC and Districts/Boroughs.

3. Risks

- 3.1 As there are 12 separate agreements that need to be signed and ratified, there will be timetabling differences as each is taken through the respective governance process and timetable in each District/Borough which will mean that different Agreements will be in place until this process is completed.
- 3.2 Some Districts/Boroughs may not agree all or some of the proposed changes, however by involving the current JTB Chair in the revision of the agreement this should help to ensure this risk is minimised.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications of the proposed amendments.

5. Legal implications

- 5.1 There are no additional direct legal implications from the proposed amendments. However, by formally reviewing the agreement and more clearly setting out their governance arrangements and remit will strengthen any resulting decisions of either KCC or the District/Borough. The Forward Plan will also make it easier to residents to be aware of future discussions which they may find of interest.

6. Equalities and data protection implications

6.1 There are no equalities or data protection implications resulting from the proposed amendments.

7. Governance

7.1 It is necessary that each council endorses the amendments in accordance with its own governance procedures. This proposed non-key Cabinet Member decision satisfies both statutory and local requirements for KCC to have the amendments agreed through the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee.

8. Next Steps

8.1 Subject to the views of Cabinet Committee, it is proposed that the revised agreement is taken back through the KCC/District/Borough formal governance procedures for sign-off.

9. Recommendation

9.1 The Cabinet Committee is asked to comment and endorse or make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Planning, Highways, Transport and Waste on the proposed decision to adopt a revised JTB Agreement as shown at Appendix B.

10. Appendices

- **Appendix A:** Proposed Record of Decision
- **Appendix B:** Proposed revised JTB Agreement
- **Appendix C:** Current JTB Chairmen

11. Contact details

Report Author:

Simon Jones

Director of Highways Transportation and Waste

Telephone number: 03000 413479

Email: simon.jones@kent.gov.uk

Relevant Director:

Simon Jones

Director of Highways Transportation and Waste

Telephone number: 03000 413479

Email: simon.jones@kent.gov.uk