

Direct Dial/Ext: 01622 694334  
Fax:  
e-mail: christine.singh@kent.gov.uk  
Ask for: Christine Singh  
Your Ref:  
Our Ref:  
Date:

Dear Member

**ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION POLICY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE - TUESDAY, 31 MARCH 2009**

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at next Tuesday, 31 March 2009 meeting of the Environment and Regeneration Policy Overview Committee, the following reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

**Agenda No    Item**

5.     **'Unlocking Kent's Potential' - Presentation (oral report by Kevin Lynes)**

Yours sincerely



**Peter Sass**  
**Head of Democratic Services & Local Leadership**

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# Unlocking Kent's Potential: opportunities and challenges

KCC's framework for regeneration 2009 – 2020



# Regeneration Framework

- Agreed by Cabinet, COG presented at Leadership Seminar
- Launched 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009
- Consultation period ends 17<sup>th</sup> April 2009
- Individual meetings with District Chief Executives and Leaders
- Meetings with partners including; Kent Partnership, Kent Economic Board, Kent Leaders' Group, Kent Developers' Group

# Overview

## Themes:

- Building a new relationship with business
- Unlocking talent to support the Kent economy
- Embracing a growing and ageing population
- Building homes and communities, not estates
- Delivering growth without transport gridlock
- Meeting the climate change

# Summary of Feedback

- Road and Rail infrastructure
- Housing numbers & adequate community infrastructure
- Help for existing businesses
- The importance of education as the basis for a sound economy
- Localised issues

# Regeneration Framework Governance Structure

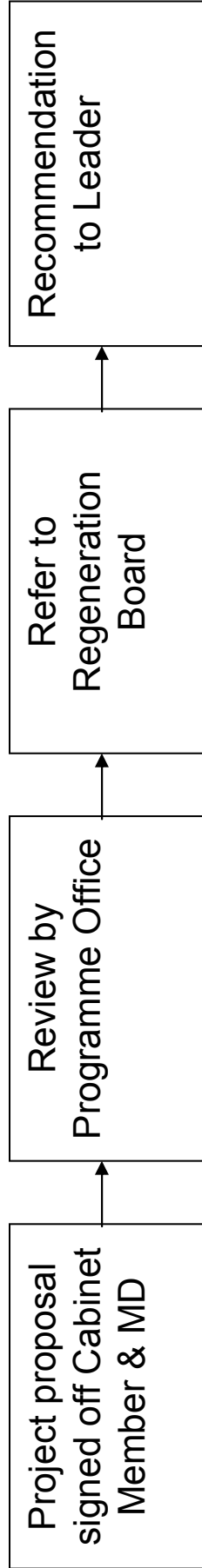
- Regeneration Board
- Terms of Reference
- Process
- Progress to date



# Board: Terms of Reference

- Ensuring coherent approach across KCC in meeting Regeneration Framework objectives
- Overseeing delivery of the Regeneration Framework and economic development objectives
- Commissioning new regeneration projects and initiatives
- Directing regeneration fund investment
- Monitoring progress of key strategies

# Process



# Progress to date

- Board confirmed and meetings diarised
  - 8 April, 9-11am
  - 10 June, 2-4pm
  - 5 August, 2-4pm
  - 7 October, 2-4pm
  - 2 December 2-4pm
- Programme office in place within Regeneration & Economy Division
- Established process for monitoring

# Key Supporting Strategy and Policy Documents

- Kent Environment Strategy
- Leisure, Culture and Sport Strategy
- Skills Commission
- Integrated Transport Strategy for Kent
- Integrated Housing Strategy
- “What Price Growth”
- Strategy for Later Life

# Other Key Strategies

## Digital Britain

- Government report published January for informal consultation
- KCC responded March
- Final report expected Summer

# Backing Kent Business

- “Backing Kent Business” campaign successfully launched in December 2008
- Campaign sets out 10 commitments to support businesses during the economic turnaround
- Underpinning these commitments is the development of a new relationship with business – itself a key theme of the draft Regeneration Framework

# Backing Kent Business- Achievements to March 2009

- New partnership arrangement between KCC and business representative organisations signed January 2009
- Series of business events raising profile of business opportunities being rolled-out
- Kent Property Enterprise Fund (2) established and £43.7m property funding agreed with Directorates
- Kent Business Support Centre established and being further developed as a virtual hub of business information
- In terms of expanding KCC's approved list of contractors, over 130 new contractors currently being assessed
- All KCC managers reminded that tender opportunities over £50,000 needs to advertised on the South East Business Portal, and for Kent suppliers to be considered for sub-£50k contracts

# Backing Kent Business: Sector Strategy

- Establishment of steering group and scoping work for studies – May
- Focus groups to determine key messages and actions – June – August
- Draft strategy and action plan – September
- Consultation period – September – October
- Final strategy and action plan – November
- Begin implementation of action plan – December onwards

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