



AGENDA CABINET

Wednesday, 6th February, 2008, at 10.00 am Ask for: **Karen Mannering /
Geoff Mills**
Darent Room - Sessions House, County Telephone **(01622) 694367/
Hall, Maidstone** **694289**

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

(During these items the meeting is likely to be open to the public)

1. Declaration of Interests by Member in Items on the Agenda for this meeting
2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 January 2008 (Pages 1 - 8)
3. Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Exception Report (Pages 9 - 16)
4. Medium Term Plan 2008-11 (Incorporating the Budget and Council Tax Setting for 2008-09) - Update (To follow) (Please bring with you to the meeting the Draft Budget and Medium Term Plan previously circulated) (Pages 17 - 48)
5. Unit Review (Including Designated and Specialist Provision and Very Severe and Complex Need Support for Children and Young People with Special Educational Need at Mainstream Schools) (Pages 49 - 58)
6. Targeted Youth Support (Pages 59 - 64)
7. LA Proposed Co-ordinated Scheme for Primary and Secondary Schools in Kent and Admission Arrangements for Primary and Secondary Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools 2009-10 (Pages 65 - 106)
8. Endorsement of the Kent Countryside Access Improvement Plan (Pages 107 - 112)
9. Regeneration Strategy for KCC (Pages 113 - 116)
10. Environment & Regeneration Directorate Review (Pages 117 - 120)
11. Kent 2012 Progress Report on 2007 (Pages 121 - 122)
12. Cabinet Scrutiny Committee - Details of Decisions taken at meeting on 23 January 2008 (Pages 123 - 126)
13. Other items which the Chairman decides are relevant or urgent

EXEMPT ITEMS

(At the time of preparing the agenda there were no exempt items. During any such items which may arise the meeting is likely NOT to be open to the public)

Peter Gilroy
Chief Executive
Tuesday, 29 January 2008

Please note that any background documents referred to in the accompanying papers maybe inspected by arrangement with the officer responsible for preparing the relevant report.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

MINUTES of a meeting of the Cabinet held at Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Monday, 14 January 2008.

PRESENT: Mr P B Carter (Chairman), Mr N J D Chard, Mr M C Dance, Mr K A Ferrin, Mr G K Gibbens, Mr R W Gough, Mr P M Hill, Mr K G Lynes, and Mr C T Wells. Mr R A Marsh was also present.

OFFICERS: Mr P Gilroy, Chief Executive; Mr G Badman, Managing Director for Children, Families and Education; Ms A Honey, Managing Director, Communities; Mr O Mills, Managing Director for Adult Services; Ms M Peachey, Director of Public Health, Mr A Wood, Head of Financial Management and Mr A Wilkinson, Managing Director for Environment and Regeneration.

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS**1. Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Exception Report**

(Item 2 – Report by Mr Nick Chard, Cabinet Member for Finance, and Andy Wood, Head of Financial Management)

(1) This report highlighted the main movements since the report to Cabinet in December 2007. There remained significant revenue budget pressures which would need to be managed to insure a balanced revenue position by the year end. The proposed management actions would be closely monitored throughout the remainder of the year to determine progress towards achieving a balanced outturn for the Authority (excluding Asylum).

(2) Mr Chard said that the forecast underspend of some £4.5m on revenue did not include the £4m currently owed for asylum seekers. In respect of the underspend of £92m on capital, 80% of this was contained within 32 projects. The capital programme would happen but was just delayed. However it would be delivered on budget. Mr Carter stressed that we have in place a very ambitious capital programme and that we do deliver good value for money.

(3) Mr Carter advised that progress was being made on the asylum issue and that PricewaterhouseCoopers had been commissioned to do an independent evaluation across several other authorities to assess the fairness of our claim. The evaluation results would be published in 2 to 3 weeks following which Ministerial meetings would take place.

(4) RESOLVED that the report be noted.

2. Update on CSR 07 and the Local Government provisional finance settlement

(Item 3 – Report by Mr Paul Carter, Leader of the Council, Mr Nick Chard, Cabinet Member for Finance, Mr Peter Gilroy, Chief Executive and Andy Wood, Head of Financial Management)

(1) The report set out the implications of the Local Government provisional finance settlement for the years 2008-2011 which were announced on 6 December 2007. The provisional settlement provided detail behind the headline figures previously announced in the Comprehensive Spending Review in October 2007. The report also contained, as an appendix, a draft response to Government on the Local Government Finance Settlement.

(2) Mr Chard welcomed the 3 year settlement and the extra £9m. However he stressed that there would still be difficult choices to make as it fell significantly short of addressing the funding pressures faced by the County Council. Mr Wood stated that the settlement could change and this would not be known until late January early February which would be after our draft budget proposals were published on 21 January 2008.

(3) RESOLVED that:-

(a) the report be noted; and

(b) a report be submitted to a future meeting on the Green Paper consultation on the system of adult care support to ensure that an affordable scheme is in place for the 21st Century.

3. Monitoring of the Outcomes of Select Committee Topic Reviews 2001-2007

(Item 4 – Report by Mr Paul Carter, Leader of the Council)

(1) In the summer of 2007 a questionnaire had been circulated to all Members of the existing Policy Overview Committees on the effectiveness of these Committees and the outcomes of this questionnaire had been reported to the County Council in October 2007.

(2) In March 2006 the County Council had agreed a formal procedure for Select Committee reports whereby the Select Committee recommendations required an action plan be prepared within three months and this action plan to be made available to the host Policy Overview Committee and for the Select Committee to be reconvened to monitor the recommendations one year after the endorsement of the Select Committee report by Cabinet.

(3) Cabined noted that the Overview and Scrutiny function continues to evolve as does the Topic Review process. They acknowledge that the Select Committee Topic Reviews have added value and made a significant impact and contribution to targets set out in 2010 and a number of the County Council's Policy Framework documents. Select Committees have been achieving successful outcomes since the inception of Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Government.

(4) RESOLVED that:-

- (a) the report be noted and support be given to the ongoing development of the Select Committee Topic Review process which had achieved excellent outcomes for the County Council and the residents of Kent; and
- (b) Policy Overview Co-ordinating Committee be requested to monitor the outcomes of Topic Review reports published prior to the formal adoption of a monitoring process in March 2006 on a systematic basis.

4. Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Children and Young People's Health in Kent

(Item 5 – Report by Mr Graham Badman, Managing Director for Children, Families and Education; Mr Mark Dance, Cabinet Member for Operations, Resources and Skills CFE and Mr Chris Wells, Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Educational Standards, CFE)

(1) The report included a copy of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Children in Kent (JSNK) which had been led by Dr Jonathan Sexton, Assistant Director of Public Health Canterbury/Swale, Eastern and Coastal Kent PCT, supported by a team from both Health and from KCC CFE as part of the developing relationship with Health being fostered through the Health Division within CFE and the KCC Public Health Unit.

(2) Cabinet noted that the JSNA was a useful tool to support the joint planning, commissioning and delivery of services for children and young people in Kent under development through the Kent Children's Trust.

(3) Every Child Matters and the NHS National Service Framework for Children were primarily concerned with standards of care in order that children's services were fit for purpose. This Strategic Needs Assessment would be used to identify issues requiring future investment grounded upon the identification of local issues. It would also identify other change issues necessary to advance improvements in the health and welfare of children and young people. For this reason there were obvious cross links from this Needs Assessment to the Children and Young Person's Plan.

(4) Whilst the prime audience for the Needs Assessment was the multi-agency Kent Children's Trust, wherever possible the data was broken down to district level. Thus emerging Local Children's Trust Arrangements could use the data in the document together with its commentary to highlight local issues reflected in the relative position of each locality to the county as a whole and to make regional and England comparisons. KCC analysts were also developing a report card for each district, which would use the data for focused local use.

(5) There was more work to be done on improving information about child health particularly indicators that showed how we were doing on inequalities in health. This would form part of the work of the Kent Public Health Observatory led by the Director of Public Health.

(6) It was planned that a summary version of a revised JSNA would be produced in Autumn 2008 which showed how it had influenced commissioning and how we were progressing on reducing inequalities in health to influence commissioning in 2009/10.

(7) RESOLVED that:-

- (a) the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Children and Young People's Health in Kent be noted and used as a tool to support the development of the Kent Children's Trust and the commissioning of locality based services; and
- (b) the report be submitted to both the Children and Families and the Communities Policy Overview Committees.

5. The Outcomes of the Children and Young People of Kent Survey 2006/7 undertaken by the National Foundation for Educational Research

(Item 6 – Report by Mr Graham Badman, Managing Director for Children, Families and Education; Mr Mark Dance, Cabinet Member for Operations, Resources and Skills CFE and Mr Chris Wells, Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Educational Standards, CFE)

(1) The report provided Cabinet with the outcomes of the National Foundation for Education Research Pupil Survey for Kent, attached as an appendix to the report was an Executive Summary of the survey which included age related summaries.

(2) This survey was commissioned to find out what Children and Young People in Kent thought about a range of issues related to the Every Child Matters Outcomes including Being Healthy, Staying Safe, Enjoying and Achieving, Making a Positive Contribution and Achieving Economic Well-being.

(3) It was noted that the information collected through the survey was still being analysed and the data comparisons collated on an individual cluster basis.

(4) RESOLVED that:-

- (a) the report be noted; and
- (b) a further analysis of the Survey data be sought by April 2008 to determine any major policy and budget issues.

6. The Case for establishing a Credit Union for Kent

(Item 7 – Report by Mr Keith Ferrin, Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste; Mr Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Supporting Independence and Mr Adam Wilkinson, Managing Director of Environment and Regeneration)

(Mr Gibbens made a declaration of interest as his wife was a founder member of the Canterbury Credit Union)

(See Record of Decision on pages 7 - 8)

7. Commission for Social Care Inspection – Annual Performance Review Report for Adult Social Care

(Item 8 – Report by Mr Kevin Lynes, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services and Mr Oliver Mills, Managing Director, Kent Adult Social Services)

(1) The report included the Performance Review Report for Adult Social Care and outlined the Commission for Social Care Inspection's view of the Adult Social Services Directorate's performance over the past year.

(2) The outcome of the performance assessment for 2006/7 was announced on 27 November 2007 and resulted in KCC retaining its 3-star rating for the sixth year for Adult Social Services.

(3) Cabinet noted that 2007/08 was likely to be the last year in which a star rating would be given for Adult Social Services as a new performance regime was expected in 2009 which would include a Joint Assessment Framework with Health and that a Joint Commission for Health and Social Care was expected to be established in 2009.

(4) RESOLVED that:-

(a) the report be noted; and

(b) Cabinet's thanks be passed to all staff involved within the Adult Social Services and Communities Directorates.

8. Kent/Swindon Partnership

(Item 9 – Report by Mr Keith Ferrin, Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste and Mr Oliver Mills, Managing Director, Kent Adult Social Services)

(1) In October 2004 Swindon Borough Council (SBC) and Kent County Council entered in to an improvement partnership. The purpose of the partnership was to improve the Swindon Social Services performance within a period of up to three years with a headline measure of improved performance agreed at a move from zero to two stars as assessed by the Commission for Social Care Inspection – Ofsted for Children's Social Services from 2005/2006. At the end of the partnership in November 2007 SBC's performance on Adult Social Services was assessed as two stars while all services for Children and Young People, including Education, under the Ofsted APA Framework were assessed as 2 overall, equivalent to one star under the previous CSCI star rating process.

(2) The Kent/Swindon partnership has been successful, both in achieving sustainable improvement by Swindon Council and in demonstrating the local Government franchising model can work through the family of local Government working together rather than interventions by external consultancies, which had been costly and failed over a long period. The partnership has been genuinely unique in its range and ambition. It has taken great commitment and resilience from Members, senior managers, frontline and support staff from both organisations during a period of major change for local Government. Its partnership has produced a rich source of evidence to guide future capacity building initiatives, which should be taken up by Government, academics and public agencies.

(3) In the end the partnership is about people – the people of Swindon and Kent have benefited from the commitment and skill of all those in Kent and Swindon who have made the partnership a success.

(4) RESOLVED that:-

(a) the report be noted; and

(b) Mr K Ferrin prepare an article for submission to the Local Government Chronicle setting out Kent's journey with Swindon Borough Council.

9. Audit Commission Inspection of the Kent Supporting People Programme

(Item 10 – Report by Mr Kevin Lynes, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services and Mr Oliver Mills, Managing Director, Kent Adult Social Services)

(1) The Audit Commission undertook a full inspection of the Kent Supporting People Programme in September 2007. Their report was published on 29 November 2007 and judged the service to be “good with promising prospects for improvement”. Kent County Council will be responding by 29 January 2008.

(2) A special meeting of the Core Strategy Development Group is proposed in January to help to construct the response. The invitation to this meeting will also be open to any members of the Commissioning Body who would like to attend. This will be signed off by Kevin Lynes in his dual role as Cabinet Member for KASS, and Chair of the Commissioning Body. It will then be reported to the next meetings of the Commissioning Body and the Adult Social Services Policy Overview Committee (ASSPOC).

(3) RESOLVED that the report be noted.

10. Cabinet Scrutiny and Policy Overview Standing Report to January 2008

(Item 10 – Report by Mr Peter Gilroy, Chief Executive)

(1) The report summarised the outcomes and progress on matters arising from the meeting of Cabinet Scrutiny on 12 December 2007 and set out progress on the current programme for Select Committee Topic Reviews.

(2) Mr Ferrin advised that SE Trains had not responded to our request for the inclusion of rail travel within the Freedom Pass Scheme and it had been decided to wait until the extension of the scheme countywide was completed before a further approach was made to SE Trains. Mr Badman confirmed that foster carers do receive allowances to cover costs, if required, for the £50 Freedom Pass.

(3) RESOLVED that the report be noted.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
RECORD OF DECISION



DECISION TAKEN BY

Cabinet
14 January 2008

DECISION NO.

08/01122

6. The Case for establishing a Credit Union for Kent

(Item 7 – Report by Mr Keith Ferrin, Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste; Mr Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Supporting Independence and Mr Adam Wilkinson, Managing Director of Environment and Regeneration)

(1) The report outlined the following action plan to investigate the potential and develop a proposal to take forward the establishment of a Kent Credit Union.

- (a) a feasibility study be commissioned at approximately £20K to provide full detail including key elements, based on guidance from ABCUL. The key outputs would be:
- an assessment of the options for Common Bonds within Kent with appropriate recommendations
 - an assessment of the Staffing And Resource implications of the proposed options
 - Financial Projections drawn up, based on the above, that can be used as a basis for aiding the decision-making for credit union development in the area
 - production of a written report which will assist any subsequent development of a Regulatory Business Plan needed for authorisation by the FSA.
- (b) following the feasibility stage, production of a full regulatory business plan would require appointment of key, experienced staff to drive the process, therefore the appointment of a Credit Union Development Manager would be expected to cost approximately £50K for one year;
- (c) support staff and operation budget to fund to full business planning completion would be estimated at £30K. This would be expected to include recruitment costs, professional/regulatory fees, advertising and promotion and initial volunteer and staff training costs;
- (d) this level of finance would provide only initial feasibility and business planning and the full costs to set up a Credit Union for Kent were expected to be in the region of £500K consideration would need to be given as part of feasibility and planning to how these funds would be raised to ensure the Credit Union would have sufficient initial capital to ensure future sustainability; and

(2) After detailed discussions Cabinet RESOLVED that £100K for a full feasibility study to be commissioned, under the guidance of the Cabinet Members Steering Group, and to allow development of a complete and full business plan for the establishment of a Credit Union

for Kent via the appointment of a Credit Union Development Manager and supporting staff for one year.

Background Documents:

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 signed
 Chief Executive

date 21 January 2008

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Decision Referred to Cabinet Scrutiny			
YES		NO	

Cabinet Scrutiny Decision to Refer Back for Reconsideration			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration Record Sheet Issued			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration of Decision Published
DD/MM/YY

To: CABINET – 6 February 2008
 By: Nick Chard, Cabinet Member – Finance
 Andy Wood, Head of Financial Management

REVENUE & CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING EXCEPTION REPORT

1. Introduction

1.1 This exception report highlights the main movements since the report to Cabinet on 14 January 2008. There has been little change in the overall revenue position within direct services this month but there is a further £1m of savings forecast on the financing items budgets within the Finance portfolio. There remain significant revenue budget pressures that will need to be managed during the rest of the financial year if we are to have a balanced revenue position by year end. The proposed management actions will be closely monitored throughout the remainder of the year to determine progress towards achieving a balanced outturn position for the authority (excluding Asylum). Details of the impact of these management actions are provided in section 2 of this report.

The current underlying net revenue position by portfolio after the implementation of assumed management action, compared with the net position reported last month, is shown in **table 1** below.

Table 1: Net Revenue Position after Proposed Management Action

Portfolio	Gross Position £m	Proposed Management Action £m	Net Position after mgmt action £m		Movement £m
			This month	Last month	
OR&S (CFE) *	+2.644	-1.829	+0.815	+0.815	-
CF&EA	+1.809	-2.144	-0.335	-0.265	-0.070
KASS	+3.344	-1.429	+1.915	+1.915	-
EH&W	-2.255	-	-2.255	-2.465	+0.210
R&SI	-0.935	-	-0.935	-0.765	-0.170
Communities	+1.262	-0.432	+0.830	+0.830	-
Public Health	-0.050	-	-0.050	-0.050	-
Corporate Support	-0.180	-	-0.180	-0.180	-
Policy & Performance	-	-	-	-	-
Finance	-5.510	-	-5.510	-4.504	-1.006
Total (excl Asylum)	+0.129	-5.834	-5.705	-4.669	-1.036

* Of the £0.815m residual pressure within the OR&S (CFE) portfolio, +£0.570m relates to budgets managed within the CFE directorate and +£0.245m relates to budgets managed within the Chief Executives directorate (Kent Works).

- 1.2 In addition to the projected portfolio variances, there are two projected overspends, which remain as previously reported:
- The Asylum Service is expected to overspend by £4.071m.
 - Schools are projecting a draw-down of their reserves of £15m.
- 1.3 **Table 2** shows the forecast underlying gross position **before** the implementation of proposed management action, compared with the gross position reported last month.

Table 2: Gross Revenue Position before Management Action

Portfolio	Variance		Movement £m
	This Month £m	Last Month £m	
Operations, Resources & Skills (OR&S) (CFE)	+2.644	+2.644	-
Children, Families & Educational Achievement (CF&EA)	+1.809	+1.879	-0.070
Kent Adult Social Services (KASS)	+3.344	+3.666	-0.322
Environment, Highways & Waste (EH&W)	-2.255	-2.465	+0.210
Regeneration & Supporting Independence (R&SI)	-0.935	-0.765	-0.170
Communities	+1.262	+1.262	-
Public Health	-0.050	-0.050	-
Corporate Support	-0.180	-0.180	-
Policy & Performance	-	-	-
Finance	-5.510	-4.504	-1.006
Total (excl Asylum)	+0.129	+1.487	-1.358
Asylum	+4.071	+4.071	-
Total (incl Asylum)	+4.200	+5.558	-1.358

- 1.4 The gross underlying revenue pressure (excluding schools) is currently £4.2m as shown in table 2 above, but this is expected to reduce to an underspend of £5.705m (excluding the pressure on Asylum) by year end, after assuming the implementation of management action, as shown in table 1. However, with the inclusion of the Asylum pressure of £4.071m, this reduces to an overall underspend of £1.634m. The first call upon the underspending within the Financing Items budgets of the Finance portfolio will be to offset the risk on Asylum, although KCC fully expects Government to meet the full costs of this national pressure as reported to Cabinet in December. We will provide updates to this situation as and when the position changes.
- 1.5 Table 1 identifies that even after management action, residual pressures remain forecast within the Operations, Resources & Skills (CFE), Kent Adult Social Services and Communities portfolios, with no change forecast to these portfolios' net position after management action since last month.
- 1.6 Within the capital programme, there has been a further £9.964m of re-phasing of projects forecast this month. Details of the main changes are provided in section 3 of this report. The current forecast capital position by portfolio, compared with the position reported last month is shown in **table 3** below and **table 4** shows the impact of this variance on each of the funding sources.

Table 3: Capital Position

Portfolio	Variance		Movement £m
	This Month £m	Last Month £m	
Operations, Resources & Skills (CFE)	-41.962	-34.885	-7.077
Children, Families & Educational Achievement	-1.743	-1.184	-0.559
Kent Adult Social Services	-5.750	-5.172	-0.578
Environment, Highways & Waste	-26.711	-25.988	-0.723
Regeneration & Supporting Independence	-4.396	-3.724	-0.672
Communities	-18.279	-18.279	-
Corporate Support	-1.369	-1.369	-
Policy & Performance	-	-	-
Finance	-2.063	-1.708	-0.355
Total (excl Schools)	-102.273	-92.309	-9.964
Schools	-	-	-
Total	-102.273	-92.309	-9.964

- 1.7 At this point in the financial year there remains a fair number of larger projects which are still only at the approval to plan or preliminary stage and therefore are expected to incur no costs or only minimal preliminary costs this year. There has tended to be a degree of optimism that projects will proceed without problems (such as planning permissions). In order to address this issue for the 2008-11 MTP, two special meetings took place to more carefully consider the timing of delivery of projects before they were reflected in the draft budget.

Table 4: 2007-08 Capital Variance analysed by funding source

	Capital Variance £m
Supported Borrowing	-4.889
Prudential	-22.229
Prudential/Revenue	-10.115
Grant	-26.588
External Funding	-6.915
Revenue & Renewals	-1.586
Capital Receipts	-32.151
General Capital Receipts (generated by Property Enterprise Fund)	+2.200
TOTAL	-102.273

1.8 In line with our review of last year's capital outturn, it is estimated that almost 81% of the current year's variance is due to 35 large projects, with variances of £1m or more in the current year. The majority of these are detailed in the directorate annex reports of the detailed budget monitoring reported to Cabinet on 3 December, which Policy Overview Committees will be scrutinising, and subsequent changes are contained in the budget monitoring exception report to Cabinet on 14 January 2008 and section 3 of this report.

2. 2007-08 REVENUE MONITORING POSITION BY DIRECTORATE & PORTFOLIO

2.1 Operations, Resources & Skills (CFE) portfolio:

2.1.1 The forecast position for this portfolio has not changed this month.

2.1.2 Impact of Management Actions:

Within this portfolio we have looked to identify savings that both help balance the budget and keep the impact on front line services to a minimum.

The impact of the management action taken is that all service units will have to fund the cost of the Technology Refresh Programme (TRP) from within their own resources, as the £0.132m budget set aside to support managers meet some of the additional costs of TRP has been offered up as a saving so there will be some limited impact on the running costs of services.

The use of the £0.463m budget that was due to be allocated to Units to meet the costs resulting from the 2007-08 superannuation increase, to help balance the overall position, means that all Units within this portfolio will have to hold vacancies for a slightly longer period than would have been the case previously. This will have some impact on service delivery.

The impact of the other savings (use of £0.699m one-off DSG underspend from 2006-07 to fund pensions & redundancy costs of schools staff and use of £0.535m one-off payment from DCSF for prior year mandatory student awards) is not direct but there is the opportunity cost of improvements that could have been made if the funding had not been needed to balance the budget.

2.2 Children, Families & Educational Achievement portfolio:

2.2.1 The forecast for this portfolio has reduced by £0.070m this month, from +£1.879m to +£1.809m, as a result of a re-phasing into 2008-09 of £0.140m on the secondary strategy – central co-ordination budget, which is 50% funded by Standards Fund. This is a 17 month project running from April 07 to August 08 and a greater proportion of work than originally anticipated is now to be carried out between April 08 and August 08. The re-phased Standards Fund element of £0.070m will be treated as a receipt in advance in accordance with the accounting principle agreed with the external auditors for unused grant in year and will therefore have no impact on the outturn position. The KCC 50% match funding contribution of £0.070m will reflect as an underspend in the current year and will need to roll forward into 2008-09 in order to complete the project.

2.2.2 Impact of Management Actions:

Within this portfolio we have also looked to identify savings that both help balance the budget and keep the impact on front line services to a minimum.

The use of the £0.644m budget that was due to be allocated to Units to meet the costs resulting from the 2007-08 superannuation increase, to help balance the overall position, means that all

Units within this portfolio will have to hold vacancies for a slightly longer period than would have been the case previously. This will have some impact on service delivery.

2.2.3 Asylum:

The forecast position on the Asylum service remains unchanged this month at a pressure of £4.071m, which is made up as follows:

- +£4.518m pressure in the current year, £4.018m of direct spending and £0.5m of indirect costs;
- +£0.675m pressure relating to 2006-07 arising from the data matching exercise which has reduced the main Asylum claim and increased the special circumstances bids for that year, of which, to be prudent, we assume we will only receive a proportion although lobbying will continue to ensure a successful resolution;
- -£1.122m balance in the Asylum reserve which will be drawn down to offset these pressures.

In relation to previous years outstanding Special Circumstances Bids, the audit of the 2006-07 Home Office bid is continuing. The audits of these Local Authority bids are taking longer than expected; consequently the audit staff appointed by the Home Office have had their contracts extended for at least an additional month.

Following the Joint Councils meeting on 13 November and the briefing of MPs and Government officials at Westminster, PWC have commenced the independent audit of the costs which these Authorities claim is owed to them by the Government for the care of unaccompanied asylum seeking children and their field work is due to be completed shortly.

2.3 Kent Adult Social Services:

2.3.1 The latest forecast indicates a pressure before management action of £3.344m, which is a reduction of £0.322m since last month. Whilst there has been some progress in management actions within the Area commissioning budgets, particularly in Older Person's residential care in East Kent, doubts remain about achieving the full amount required to bring the Directorate and portfolio back to a balanced position by year end. This latest forecast pressure of £3.344m is after the achievement of £0.986m of management action to date. Most of these savings relate to admin and support budgets rather than the major purchasing budgets as, with the exception of Older Person's residential care and Mental Health, demand for services remains high, particularly within Learning Disability. The Directorate will obviously continue with the range of management actions identified to achieve a balanced position, however it would not be prudent to assume that all will be fully achieved in the remaining months of the year so a year end pressure, after management action, of £1.915m is forecast, which is unchanged from last month.

2.3.2 The main movements this month in the gross position before management action are:

- -£0.350m Older People – a reduction in the pressure from £0.741m to £0.391m. The primary reason for this is a net reduction in residential and nursing placements in West Kent. Although there has been little change in the number of permanent placements in East Kent it is believed that management actions and weekly residential panels are having an effect and this has been reflected in a corresponding drop in spend to date. There has also been a net decrease of six clients receiving Direct Payments. However, expenditure on domiciliary care remains a pressure with the overspend increasing again this month.
- +£0.149m Learning Disability – an increase in the pressure from £4.374m to £4.523m. Whilst the overall forecast for residential care has only marginally increased, there remains significant demand for services to keep people out of residential care and this month the impact of this has been felt in both daycare and supported accommodation budgets.
- -£0.112m Other Services – an increase in the underspend from £2.140m to £2.252m. This position reflects the impact of continued management action.

2.3.3 Impact of Management Actions:

The impacts on clients of our management actions are being mitigated by close and constructive working with the Health Service. Other management actions are creating delays in all activity. This is creating workload pressure for staff across the Directorate, which will not be long-term sustainable, and which is being closely monitored in order to mitigate impacts.

2.4 Environment, Highways & Waste portfolio:

The underspend for the portfolio has reduced by £0.210m this month to £2.255m. The main changes are:

- +£0.100m Kent Highways Services due to additional work on protective highways maintenance.
- +£0.110m Resources – this is due to increased costs of software licences for the GIS, a reduction in expected income and costs of the directorate restructure activity.

This forecast assumes that £0.490m of emergency expenditure arising from the flooding in June and the earthquake in Folkestone will be met from the Emergency Conditions Reserve, consistent with previous practice. The emergency costs associated with the recent gales in January, which caused flooding and many fallen trees, are currently being assessed and an update will be included in the next report.

2.5 Regeneration & Supporting Independence portfolio:

The underspend for the portfolio has increased by £0.170m this month to £0.935m. The main changes are within Planning & Development (-£0.110m) where there has been some further re-phasing of projects into 2008-09 including work on the Minerals & Waste Local Development Framework, the Local Transport Crossing Study and the Household Study.

2.6 Communities:

2.6.1 The gross pressure on this portfolio has remained at £1.262m this month, and this is still expected to be offset by £0.432m of management action year end, by slowing down expenditure on non essential non staffing items across all units and reviewing the programme for the replacement of equipment in order to release a one-off sum from the renewals reserve. This leaves a residual year end pressure of £0.830m in respect of Adult Education which will need to be rolled forward and addressed during the period of the 2008-11 MTP with progress monitored against an agreed action plan.

2.6.2 Impact of Management Actions:

Slowing down expenditure on non essential non staff budgets is designed to have minimal impact on front line services. Reviewing the replacement of equipment and releasing a one-off sum from the renewals reserve will mean that equipment will need to be used for longer than it was originally intended (maybe beyond what would normally be considered its useful life). We will need to ensure that we comply with health & safety and other statutory requirements as employers and inevitably some slow down of expenditure will be unpopular with managers and staff who have managed their budgets throughout the year.

2.7 Finance:

The underspend on this portfolio has increased by £1.006m to £5.510m due to further savings on the Interest on Cash Balances / Debt Charges budgets. As a result of the significant re-phasing of the capital programme and high cash balances, the level of new borrowing required in the current year has reduced, so new debt costs have been revised to reflect lower than assumed external borrowing. In addition, new external borrowing undertaken in 2007-08 has been arranged at a lower rate of interest than budgeted.

3. 2007-08 CAPITAL MONITORING POSITION BY DIRECTORATE

3.1 There has been one cash limit adjustments this month as detailed below:

	£000s
1. As reported to Cabinet on 14 January 2008	367,952
2. East Kent Resource Centre external contribution from East Kent Coastal PCT – CF&EA portfolio	10
	<hr/>
	367,962
3. PFI	36,301
	<hr/>
	404,263

3.2 Overall there is a further -£9.964m of re-phasing of projects this month, as identified in table 3, the main movements are detailed below:

3.3 Operations, Resources & Skills (CFE) portfolio:

The forecast variance for the portfolio has moved by -£7.077m from -£34.885m to -£41.962m this month. The main changes are:

- -£6.647m Children's Centre Programme - this re-phasing is as a result of an in depth review of the programme following difficulties in both identifying suitable sites and securing additional funding before allowing projects to commence. The additional funding has been reflected within the draft 2008-11 Medium Term Plan.
- -£0.575m Dartford Campus (Development Opportunities) – this re-phasing mainly relates to the Dartford Tech College (-£0.252m) and the Adult Education (-£0.260m) parts of the project. The cause of this re-phasing is due to a combination of poor weather conditions, the need to undertake additional value engineering works plus an element of over optimism.
- -£0.223m Castle Hill Primary School Freshstart project (formerly George Spurgeon) – this project continues to be delayed whilst we await a response from the DCSF on our request for additional grant funding.
- +£0.190m Marlowe Innovation Centre – the re-phasing into 2008-09 previously forecast for this project has reduced from £0.552m to £0.362m upon the latest advice of the external consultants managing the project.
- +£0.092m St James the Great Primary School – latest forecasts show a small reduction in the re-phasing into 2008-09, from £1.620m to £1.528m.

3.4 Children, Families & Educational Achievement portfolio:

The forecast for the portfolio has moved by -£0.559m from -£1.184m to -£1.743m. The main movements are detailed below:

- -£0.265m Management & Modernisation of Assets – difficulties have been experienced in arranging the 2007-08 schedule of works and a significant element of the programme will need to be re-phased into 2008-09. The main projects re-phasing are:
 - Appledore Asylum Seekers Centre – mechanical, drainage and visual inspection survey reports are awaited before the major refurbishment project can commence.
 - Swale Family Support Centre – delays to the improvement of the reception area and work to the car park and roof have been caused by difficulties in obtaining planning permission and a shortage of contract labour.
 - Poultons Family Support Centre - re-phasing of the boiler installation until after the winter to avoid disruption to services which would be caused by having no heating.
 - Six Bells Family Support Centre – DDA works and Health & Safety works to improve the reception area have been delayed due to difficulties in obtaining planning permission and a shortage of contract labour.
- -£0.123m Improving Public Access, Lowfield Road – this project is unlikely to take place in its originally planned format and alternative proposals are being looked into.
- -£0.081m Grovehill Road – Rural projects in Cranbrook – plans are in hand to develop a rural Gateway project in partnership with a number of agencies and this will be the Children's Social Services contribution to the project, which will be required in 2008-09.

3.5 Kent Adult Social Services portfolio:

The forecast for the portfolio has moved by -£0.578m from -£5.172m to -£5.750m this month. The main changes are:

- -£0.450m Dignity In Care Grant – we have obtained DoH approval to re-phase some of this grant, which is for improving the care home environment for older people, into 2008-09, as several of the providers have been slower than anticipated in arranging the necessary works.
- -£0.093m Management & Modernisation of Assets – a genuine underspend in order to offset the repayment of some PFI Excellent Housing costs incurred in 2006-07 which were funded by prudential borrowing.

3.6 Environment, Highways & Waste portfolio:

The forecast for the portfolio has moved by -£0.723m from -£25.988m to -£26.711m. The main movements are detailed below:

- -£0.845m Re-shaping KHS Accommodation – further re-phasing resulting from a reduced estimate of the value of construction work on the Ashford depot by 31 March.
- +£0.099m A228 Leybourne/West Malling bypass – a reduction in the re-phasing into 2008-09.

3.7 Regeneration & Supporting Independence portfolio:

The forecast for the portfolio has moved by -£0.672m from -£3.724m to -£4.396m. This is due to further re-phasing on the Folkestone Arts & Business Centre project as the construction programme is now 5 weeks behind schedule as a result of adverse winter weather and unexpected difficulty with the ground work because of archaeological findings.

3.8 Finance portfolio:

The forecast for the portfolio has moved by -£0.355m from -£1.708m to -£2.063m this month. The main movements are:

- -£0.285m Works to Properties for Disposal – as a further number of projected property disposals have re-phased into 2008-09.
- -£0.070m as a result of a further reduction in the purchase of Vehicles, Plant and Equipment within Commercial Services from the Renewals Fund following the change in policy to take out operating leases instead.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 Cabinet Members are asked to note the latest forecast revenue and capital budget monitoring position for 2007-08.

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By: Paul Carter, Leader of the Council
Nick Chard, Cabinet Member for Finance
Peter Gilroy, Chief Executive
Andy Wood, Head of Financial Management

To: Cabinet - 6 February 2008

Subject: Medium Term Plan 2008-11 (Incorporating the Budget and Council Tax Setting for 2008-09) – Update

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This report updates the Draft Medium Term Plan 2008-11, published on 21 January, with more recent information. The new information consists of:

- The final Local Government Finance Settlement figures announced by Central Government on 24 January 2008.
- The final tax bases agreed by the Kent District Councils as at 31 January 2008.
- The surplus or deficits announced on the District Councils' Collection Funds as at 31 January 2008.
- A draft summary of the outcomes of debate on the Medium Term Plan and Draft Revenue and Capital Budgets for 2008-09 following discussion at the following meetings, as shown as Appendix B:
 - Communities Policy Overview Committee on 24 January 2008;
 - Corporate Policy Overview Committee 25 January 2008;
 - Adult Social Services Policy Overview Committee on 29 January;
 - Children, Families and Education Policy Overview Committee on 30 January 2008;
 - Environment and Regeneration Policy Overview Committee on 31 January 2008;
 - Cabinet Scrutiny Committee on 1 February 2008;
- Business Consultation Forum on 4 February 2008 (Oral report).
- In addition there will be the Budget Consultation meeting with Trade Union and Professional Body Association representatives on 7 February 2008.

Introduction

1. Kent County Council published its Medium Term Plan 2008-11 (incorporating the Budget and Council Tax Setting for 2008-09) for consultation on 21 January 2008, in line with the agreed process.
2. However, there were three main areas of potential change which are now dealt with in this update:
 - (1) Central Government announced the Final Settlement on 24 January, which replaces the information received at Provisional Settlement on 6 December. This provides KCC with the final Formula Grant figure for 2008-09, and provisional figures for 2009-10 and 2010-11. KCC will receive £0.263m more grant in 2008-09 compared with the Provisional Settlement.
 - (2) District Councils are obliged by legislation to calculate and notify their preceptors of their tax base by 31 January. KCC's calculation of council tax depends upon the number of Band D equivalent properties (or "taxbase") within its area.
 - (3) District Councils must also calculate and notify their preceptors of any surplus or deficit on their Collection Funds. This amount is shared on a pro rata basis between all preceptors and must be used when calculating the Council's overall budget and council tax requirement.
3. It should also be borne in mind that income due under the Local Authority Business Growth Incentive Scheme (for which we have provided for budgeted income of £3.2 million in 2008-09) has yet to be confirmed by Central Government. This is due to the basis of allocation being reviewed following successful challenge, under Judicial Review, of the current operation of the LABGI scheme.

Consultation

4. KCC carried out extensive consultation on the "Vision for Kent". This has helped to identify service priorities and has been a key influence in setting out the key targets for action for "Towards 2010". The fifth Annual Report (covering 2006-07) was presented to County Council on 18 June 2007.
5. The annual budget process provides formally for consultation with the public, Trade Unions, the Business community, opposition members and professional organisations. Meetings with business leaders and meetings with staff representatives have taken place or will take place on 4 and 7 February respectively, whilst Policy Overview Committees considered the budget proposals during the week beginning 21 January. Feedback from the Policy Overview Committees was reported to Cabinet Scrutiny on 1 February, where overall budget strategy was considered. Feedback from the Policy Overview Committees is provided in Appendix B to this report.
6. As last year, two public consultation workshops were run in September 2007. These all day events invited a representative sample of resident council tax payers to consider spending issues facing the county and possible council tax

increases for the forthcoming year. Participants were invited to set their own level of council tax within a budget model. That budget model was developed and presented as a “game” but was closely modeled on real pressures facing the council. In addition, a separate consultation workshop took place with young people as part of activities based on and around 11 Million Takeover Day in November 2007.

7. Formal feedback has been received from market research firm MORI on KCC’s study of public attitudes to expenditure priorities and Council Tax levels. A summary of the main report is attached at Appendix A.

Final Settlement

8. The Final Local Government Finance Settlement was announced by central Government on Thursday 24 January. There are changes to the floor damping from the position reported to Cabinet on 14 January.
9. Details of the Final Settlement for KCC, as compared to the Provisional Settlement are as follows:

Component	Provisional Settlement 2008-09 £m	Final Settlement 2008-09 £m	Change from Provisional Settlement £m
Relative Needs	268.2	268.2	0.030
Relative Resource	-164.6	-164.6	0.000
Central Allocation	163.1	163.1	- 0.002
Floor Damping	-7.6	-7.3	0.235
External Funding	259.1	259.4	0.263
Like-for-like cash change	+ 3.7%	+ 3.4%	

Component	Provisional Forecast 2009-10 £m	Provisional Forecast 2010-11 £m
Relative Needs	276.5	284.4
Relative Resource	-170.6	-176.4
Central Allocation	171.4	179.5
Floor Damping	-10.1	-11.8
External Funding	267.2	275.7
Like-for-like cash change	+ 3.2%	+ 3.2%

10. It should be noted that the headline increase in grant for 2008-09 is 3.4%, no longer the floor funded minimum, as has been the case for the past 2 years. The headline figure for 2009-10 falls to 2.0% when the removal of LABGI grant is taken into account.
11. KCC’s Final Settlement for 2008-09 has increased by a headline £0.263m compared to the Provisional Settlement. But the percentage grant increase on

a like-for-like increase has reduced from 3.7% to 3.4%. Most of this results from the Ministry of Justice's proposed revision of Public Law Family Fees from April 2008. The Provisional Settlement did not include the impact on local authorities of new full-cost fees for childcare proceedings. The Final Settlement makes a prior year adjustment to 2007-08 which has increased upper tier grant to all floor funded authorities and reduced the need for other authorities to contribute to the floor. As a result KCC has gained £0.263m Formula Grant. However, KCC's estimated share of the full-cost fees is assumed by Central Government to be £0.860m. It is quite clear that no financial provision has been made in 2008-09. This does appear to be contrary to the New Burdens Doctrine which is meant to ensure Local Authorities are recompensed for such changes.

12. The consequences to the budget of the above are as follows:
 - (1) An increase in Children, Families and Educational Achievement Portfolio of £0.860m for Public Law Family Fees.
 - (2) An adjustment to the Finance Portfolio to fund the net shortfall in Formula Grant by rolling forward under spend from the Finance Portfolio in 2007-08.

Surplus / Deficit on Collection Funds

13. District Councils must calculate any surplus or deficit on their collection funds. These most frequently arise when the District Council over or under performs against its projected level of tax collection. This amount is shared on a pro rata basis between all preceptors and affects the council tax calculation.
14. Information now received from the districts indicates an overall deficit from their Collection Funds, of which KCC's share payable in 2008-09 is £0.2m. This deficit compares to last year's surplus of £1.5m. It must be borne in mind that these are annual, one off figures and both surpluses and deficits can arise on the Collection Funds.

Tax Base

15. KCC's calculation of council tax depends upon the number of equivalent Band D properties (or "taxbase") within its area. District councils are obliged by legislation to notify its preceptors of this figure by 31 January.
16. The actual figure notified by District Councils is 535,857.71. This includes the tax base changes arising from the reduction in discounts which district councils were able to make from April 2004 in relation to second homes. The taxbase also includes the impact of the additional taxation capacity from the districts' discretion to reduce the discount granted on empty properties. Overall this means the tax base is 1.0% higher in 2008-09 than in 2007-08.

TABLE 4 – TAXBASE USED FOR TAX SETTING					
Band D equivalentents	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Ashford	41,972.10	43,206.80	43,736.00	44,533.00	44,555.50
Canterbury	49,371.00	50,186.00	50,603.00	50,904.00	51,275.00
Dartford	31,501.77	32,117.49	32,434.30	32,874.94	33,507.59
Dover	37,590.97	38,771.34	39,030.59	39,483.81	39,795.66
Gravesham	33,674.02	33,953.37	34,134.99	34,765.31	34,947.82
Maidstone	55,806.90	56,304.70	56,754.80	57,738.10	58,514.80
Sevenoaks	48,398.47	48,697.76	48,914.04	49,187.56	49,705.82
Shepway	38,585.35	38,890.06	38,965.06	39,125.37	39,373.38
Swale	43,964.13	44,403.95	45,148.28	45,772.01	46,379.34
Thanet	44,559.21	44,533.82	45,261.76	45,600.57	46,179.22
Tonbridge & Malling	44,908.12	45,356.60	46,071.78	46,709.13	47,350.82
Tunbridge Wells	42,454.35	43,092.19	43,646.73	43,854.52	44,262.76
Total	512,786.39	519,514.08	524,701.33	530,548.32	535,857.71
% increase	1.5	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.0

Conclusion

17. In summary, the following changes have been made since the draft Medium Term Plan was published on 21 January 2008:
 - Final Grant Settlement for 2008-09;
 - Tax Base notification by districts;
 - Overall tax surplus from district Collection Funds payable to KCC.
18. There is a one off £0.2m chargeable to KCC as a result of the Collection Fund net deficit. This should be allocated as follows:
 - (1) To the Finance Portfolio, to be funded by roll forward of under spending from 2007-08.
19. The additional tax yield of £0.1m, from a higher than anticipated taxbase, and updated calculations of precepts by other bodies should be reflected as follows:
 - (1) In the Finance Portfolio to reduce the amount of the net shortfall caused by the change to Formula Grant and Public Law Family Fees.
20. Overall, the effect of the changes described in this update, is that policy proposals are unchanged from those published on 21 January, and the KCC element of the council tax increase for 2008-09 is 3.9%, subject to satisfactory resolution to the Asylum funding issue.
21. The revised calculation of the proposed Council Tax for 2008-09 is as follows:

TABLE 5 - CALCULATION OF COUNCIL TAX	
	£000
Budget Requirement 2007-08	741,729
Spending increase (net of adjustments)	115,289
Budget requirement 2008-09	857,018
Financed from:	
Formula Grant / Area Based Grant	- 320,446
Council Tax collection deficit	+ 245
Precept requirement from Council Tax	536,817
Divided by tax base (Band D equivalent)	535,857.71
Basic Amount	
Tax rate for Band D property 2008-09	1,001.79
Tax rate for Band D property 2007-08	964.17
Increase	£37.62
	+ 3.9%

22. The final position on the Children, Families and Education Directorate in relation to the estimated Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) will be subject to the remaining recommendations from the Schools Forum. The recommendations on this need to be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Operations, Resources and Skills (CFE). Final DSG should be known in June 2008.

Recommendations

Members are reminded that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applies to any meeting where consideration is given to matters relating to, or which might affect, the calculation of Council Tax.

Any Member of a Local Authority who has not paid Council Tax for at least two months, even if there is an arrangement to pay off the arrears, must declare the fact that he/she is in arrears and must not cast their vote on anything related to KCC's Budget or Council Tax.

23. Cabinet are asked to endorse the following proposals for submission to County Council on 19 February 2008:
- (1) the Revenue Budget proposals for 2008-09;
 - (2) the budget requirement of £857.0m;
 - (3) a total requirement from Council Tax of £536.8m to be raised through precept to meet the 2008-09 budget requirement. This assumes that there is a satisfactory conclusion to the Asylum funding issue;

(4) a Council Tax as set out below, for the listed property bands;

Council Tax Band	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	667.86	779.17	890.48	1001.79	1224.41	1447.03	1669.65	2003.58

being a 3.9% increase over 2007-08;

(5) the Capital Investment proposals, together with the necessary use of borrowing, revenue, grants, capital receipts, renewals and other earmarked capital funds and external subject to approval to spend arrangements;

(6) the Prudential Indicators as set out in Appendix B of the Medium Term Plan.

24. Cabinet is also asked to endorse the following recommendations to County Council:

the revenue and capital proposals as presented for:

- Operations, Resources and Skills (CFE);
- Children, Families and Educational Achievement;
- Adult Social Services;
- Environment, Highways and Waste;
- Regeneration and Supporting Independence;
- Communities;
- Health;
- Corporate Support and External Affairs;
- Policy and Performance;
- Finance.

25. That final recommendations in relation to the School Budgets and the Dedicated Schools Grant be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Operations, Resources and Skills (CFE).

Background documents:

- *Autumn Budget Statement – Cabinet 17 September 2007*
- *Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement 2008-11 – 6 December 2007*
- *Budget 2008-11 and Medium Term Plan 2008-09 to 2010-11: Update on Provisional Local Government Settlement (6 December 2007) – Cabinet 14 January 2008*
- *KCC consultation response to Provisional LG Finance Settlement –8 January 2008*
- *Draft budget 2008-09 and Draft Medium Term Plan 2008-1 – Cabinet 21 January 2008.*
- *Final Local Government Finance Settlement 2008-09 and Provisional Settlement 2009-11 – 24 January 2008*

Appendix A - Budget and Council Tax Consultations in Kent 2008/09

Key findings from discussion days
held on Saturdays 22 and 29 September
2007 for Kent County Council



September 2007

Extract from main report compiled by KCC

Summary

As part of the Kent County Council's budget setting process, the annual Public Consultation took place on two Saturdays in September 2007. The Council commissioned Ipsos MORI to coordinate the event and write the report, and this summary details the main findings of the workshops.

54 residents were selected at random by Ipsos MORI (there was a predetermined quota to ensure all ages, genders, ethnicities and classes were represented). No participants had previously been involved in any qualitative data, and knew nothing of the subject matter beforehand.

They took part in what is essentially a game, and knew that ultimately councillors have other issues to take into account when setting the budget and council tax. They were told there had to be a 3% unavoidable increase due to inflationary pressures. Upon arrival, initial questionnaires were completed, and residents listened to a presentation on the budget and what the day would entail. Participants were then split into 3 age groups (Young, Middle and Older groups) and given different budget options regarding each of the directorates. At the end of the day, participants were brought together to compare their decisions, and an overall council tax level was agreed upon. The initial questionnaire was also re-administered twice during the day to see if any views had changed.

The day allowed participants to engage in the process, and see that the council really do want to listen to their views. In turn, the council could identify what the most important services were to residents, and which ones they would be willing to prioritise and trade off.

At the start of both workshops, many residents admitted they did not know too much about the budget setting process. They also voiced that they would avoid an increase in council tax if possible. By the end, many participants had agreed to a slight increase in the tax, and many indicated they felt more informed about the budget process than at the start of the day.

At the beginning of the workshops, the 6 groups (3 from each workshop) identified their top priorities. Both Young and Middle age groups prioritised Education as being important. Areas of improvement that were easily decided upon included roads, pavements, social services and waste management. When asked about the council tax level they would like to pay next year, most strongly opposed any increase, in order to allow people to save, or because they could not afford any more. Some did accept a small increase, providing it resulted in improved services.

The directorate that saw the largest area of spend overall was **Children, Families and Education**. Whilst allocations of resources to

Education were seen as sufficient, it was viewed as one which plays a pivotal role in shaping young people's early lives, so further allocation of funding was provided.

The **Adult Services** directorate received the second most amount of funding from participants. All options received slightly more funding, as residents felt it was not only important there were more occupational therapists, but also that older people were supported to stay in their homes with home adaptations.

With regards to **Communities**, the funding and support of the voluntary and community sectors was seen as important, but at the same time participants did not believe it was entirely down to the council to fulfil the responsibilities of the third sector. As with the last two years, no groups elected to spend any more on *Increasing Archive Opening hours*. Overall, the provision of libraries and cultural opportunities was not seen as a relative priority.

The directorate to see the smallest increase in funding was **Environment and Regeneration**. Whilst roads and waste management were seen as priorities, the improvements to country parks, the 'reduce waste campaign' and the support for Parish Council's were not as popular. Only one group from the young age category spent more money on the budget options, suggesting this service is not a high priority for this age range.

Participants felt that they would like to see more innovative ways of informing the public about council tax, and the success of these workshops indicates they would be receptive to such information. For example, many did not realise the council tax has to increase by the same amount as public sector inflation in order to achieve the same amount of spending as last year. They also were keen to see more long term benefits to fund certain initiatives, such as making investments.

The resistance people have to council tax increases was in part because they did not know what the Council does and does not do, although they admit they are in part to blame for this. Were this knowledge improved, KCC's profile as an efficient and transparent authority could be raised, and people may more readily accept increases in council tax.

Consultee Cabinets' 'decisions'

CHILDREN, FAMILIES, EDUCATION	KCC budget option	Sum agreed (average across all groups)
	£m	£m
Three secondary school teachers per district	1.2	0.50
Two primary school teaching assistants per district and 18 new primary school assistants	1.2	0.95
New books for schools (£1,000 per primary school)	0.5	0.17
Sports equipment and encouraging children in sport (£1500 to each school)	0.9	0.15
Extra staff:		
- for the Specialist Teaching Service and	0.6	0.50
- for each Joint Commissioning Team	0.6	0.30
Social services:		
- 12 staff to cope with referrals and	0.4	0.27
- cost of 'looking after children in care above affordable level'	2.0	0.83
SUB-TOTAL	7.4	3.67
ADULT SERVICES		
Three new occupational therapists per district	1.2	0.77
Two new staff per district to visit older people, lonely and on their own	0.6	0.05
Home adaptations	0.6	0.60
Encouraging benefit take-up	0.5	0.23
SUB-TOTAL	2.9	1.65
ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION		
Improvements to 20 county parks and 6,900km rights of way	0.6	0.10
10 more county lengthsman	0.3	0.20
Reduce Waste Campaign	0.3	0.00
Grants to parish councils	0.3	0.00
Increase regularity of some socially necessary bus and public transport services	0.5	0.47
Appointment of four new fly-tipping enforcement teams	0.4	0.20
SUB-TOTAL	2.4	1.07
COMMUNITIES		
Two new community wardens per district	0.8	0.20
Two new handy vans	0.2	0.05
Two new Home Safe vans	0.2	0.08
Three new staff to the Kent Drag and Alcohol Action Team (KDAAT)	0.1	0.16
Libraries		
- more books	0.7	0.12
- increase archive opening hours	0.15	0.00
Community Youth Tutors and grants to youth clubs	1.0	0.42
Sports:		
- Five grants of £2,500 per district for local clubs	0.15	0.10
- Three additional staff members to help prepare for Olympics	0.1	0.02
Forty grants of £5k to arts organisations	0.2	0.30
SUB-TOTAL	3.6	1.18
GRAND TOTAL	16.3	7.46
SUMMARY		
TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENDITURE		7.46
Resultant council tax increase		1.5%
Unavoidable council tax increase		3.0%
TOTAL COUNCIL TAX INCREASE		4.5%

By: Head of Democratic Services

To: Cabinet – 6 February 2008

Subject: **MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2008-11
BUDGET 2008/09 COMMENTS FROM POLICY
OVERVIEW AND CABINET SCRUTINY
COMMITTEES**

Classification: Unrestricted

Introduction

1. The Policy Overview Committees and the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee considered the budgets that related to their current areas of responsibility. This report provides a summary of the comments on the Draft Medium Term Financial Plan 2008-11 and Draft Budget for 2008/09 made at the following meetings:

Communities Policy Overview Committee – 24 January 2008
(Appendix 1) (Pages 13-18)

Corporate Policy Overview Committee – 25 January 2008
(Appendix 2) (Pages 19-21)

Adult Social Services Policy Overview Committee – 29 January
2008 (Appendix 3) (Pages 22-23)

Children, Families and Education Policy Overview Committee –
30 January 2008 (Appendix 4) (Pages 24-27)

Environment and Regeneration Policy Overview Committee – 31
January 2008 (Appendix 5) (Pages 28-31)

Cabinet Scrutiny Committee – 1 February 2008 (Appendix 6)
(Page 32)

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Background Documents: *None*

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

**COMMUNITIES POLICY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE –
24 JANUARY 2008**

**BUDGET 2008-09 AND MEDIUM TERM PLAN 2008-09 TO
2010-11**

*(Item B4 – Report by Mr Hill, Cabinet Member for Community Services
and Ms A Honey, Managing Director)*

1. The Committee considered the Communities Directorate's Draft Budget proposals set out in the Draft Budget 2008-09 and the Draft Medium Term Financial Plan 2008-2011 and also the report which was circulated specifically relating to the key areas of these documents for Communities.

2. The Cabinet Member and Officers introduced each section of the Revenue Budget and Capital Budget for the Communities Directorate and answered questions raised by Members of the Committee.

3. Mr Hill, Ms Honey, Mr Shipton, Mr Crilley, Ms Slaven, Mr Bainbridge and Ms Edwards answered questions from Members about the following issues:-

MTP 2008/09 to 2010/11

(a) Base Budget Transfers to and from other Portfolios

4. In a response to a question from Mr Christie, Mr Shipton confirmed that after the start of 2008/09 it would not be necessary to transfer funds from other Portfolios to Communities as the transition to the new Communities Directorate would be complete. In reply to a question from Mr Law, Mr Shipton confirmed that £92,000 transfer for 2008/09 was a net figure which included gross expenditure and income.

5. In response to a question from Mr Maddison, Mr Shipton confirmed that the loan to the Adult Education service for the 2006/07 over spend was an internal arrangement between the Finance and Communities portfolios

(b) Pay and Prices

6. In response to a question from Mr Christie, Mr Shipton explained that 2.5% had been provided for in the 2008/09 Budget for all pay groups (including staff in the Kent Scheme and national schemes) and in the Medium Term Financial Plan 2% has been provided for 2009-

2010 and 2010-2011. The amount for 2010/11 is more than 2009/10 to take account of the cumulative effect.

(c) Service Strategies and Improvements

7. In response to a question from Mr Chell, Mr Shipton confirmed that for the specific grants transferring into the main grant settlement i.e. food hygiene, enforcement of intellectual property rights, and animal feed, officers had only been able to identify the same amounts as received in the current year. There was no increase for inflation or additional responsibilities. In relation to enforcement of intellectual property rights, Mr Bainbridge confirmed that nationally £5m of grants were allocated in the current year and the Government has stated this will be increased to £7m next year. However, it has not been possible to identify any additional money in the Revenue Support Grant settlement. There was also meant to be additional money to implement energy performance certificates but it has not been possible to identify this either.

8. In response to a question from Mr Christie, Mr Shipton explained that the cost of early retirements following the restructuring of the library service have been netted off against the saving while the early retirements following the restructuring of the Cultural Development Unit are shown separately. He explained that the reason was the Library saving represented a reduction in net expenditure for the portfolio while the Cultural Development saving was offset against reduced income and was no net saving. He agreed to consider how savings from restructuring and costs of early retirements are presented in future Medium Term Plans to ensure greater consistency.

(d) Income Generation

9. Members were concerned that the proposed increase in fees for Adult Education courses would result in reduced student numbers and therefore have a detrimental affect on gross income. Ms Honey confirmed that the service has carried out an enormous amount of detailed work in this area and agreed to bring a report to the Committee which set out the strategies for Adult Education tuition charges. Mr Shipton agreed that a more accurate wording in relation to Adult Education fees would be “to increase the yield from tuition fees”.

10. In response to a question from Mr Christie, Mr Shipton confirmed that some registration fees are statutory and are set by Government, for example, birth and death certificates. Mr Bainbridge confirmed that the proposed increase in fees mainly related to wedding ceremonies conducted in County Council premises and explained the different types of service that the Registration Service was able to provide. In the main the increases relate to ceremonies in Kent's six main Registry offices with the aim of making these self funding over the

next few years. This would require significant increases in fees over time. The proposed increases in fees in KCC venues work out at approximately 47 – 50%, and the proposed increase for commercial venues are 10-11%. Research had shown that KCC venues were popular and therefore it was reasonable to ask people to pay more to ensure the costs of the service were covered. It was noted that there were still a number of choices available to people in relation to wedding venues.

11. In a response to a question from Mr Koowaree, Mr Bainbridge stated that in relation to the registration of births, this service cost more to provide than the County Council was able to get back in statutory fees.

12. In response to a question from Mr Law relating to the figures for income generation for the Youth Service, Mr Shipton confirmed that in the past we have only shown KCC's net contribution towards the running cost of Youth centres. Under the budget proposals for next year it is planned to show the gross cost and all the income generated by centres.

13. In response to a question from Mr Law relating to the figures for income generation for the Youth Service, Mr Shipton confirmed that these were net costs and did not show the increase in gross expenditure and gross income. They only showed KCC's net contribution to the centre. In future the gross costs and income would be shown.

14. Ms Slaven, in relation to a question from Mr Law explained that a room in the Whitstable Youth Centre was used during the day time by the Young Persons Substance Mis-use Team the Young People service (KDAAT) is grant funded and only use the premise core during office hours.

15. In relation to the question on the Youth Offending Service, Ms Slaven replied that the national grant from the Justice Board and the amount the local authority contributed was reflective of the national agreement for the funding of Youth Offending services and no significant change had occurred.

16. Ms Slaven reaffirmed that officers were passionate about increasing the amount of provision for young people. The target of increasing income by the letting of youth centre premises would not be achieved at the expense of reducing the time that young people could use centres. A recent survey of young people had shown that they wanted their centres open for longer periods of time and discussions were being held with colleagues in District Councils and others in order to try to achieve this.

17. Officers agreed to brief Mr Law outside the meeting to clarify the issues he was raising in relation to the Youth Service and Youth

Offending Service and a reconciliation statement on the proposed and presentation changes to income will be circulated to all Members of the Committee.

(e) Efficiency Savings

18. In response to a question from Mr Northey regarding use of computers in libraries, Mr Shipton confirmed that libraries operate an open access policy and that consideration has been given to charging for excessive use but rejected as it would cost as much to collect the charges as the amount raised. Mr Crilley undertook to look at the issue that Mr Northey raised in relation to computer use in a library in Canterbury.

19. In response to a question from Mr Christie, Mr Hill explained that the £120,000 in grants that the Community Safety Unit provided to CDRPs (Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships) towards Community Safety Projects and the £60,000 towards Warden projects were something that had been introduced when CDRPs were first set up. At that time CDRPs were poorly funded but now they receive significant funds and therefore this small amount of money put in by KCC was no longer appropriate. He reaffirmed that KCC's priority is the Community Warden Scheme at a cost to KCC of over £3m a year. He confirmed that every CDRP area has its share of Community Wardens which represents a significant contribution on the part of KCC.

20. In response to a question from Mr Chell, Mr Hill confirmed that whether or not the Warden Service received financial assistance from the CDRP depends on the decisions of the individual CDRPs.

21. In response to a question from Mr Christie, Mr Bainbridge confirmed that the Registration Service for births and deaths had a number of sub-offices and it was intended to examine opportunities to relocate services into other Communities facilities e.g. Adult Education centres, thus delivering efficiency savings not reducing the footprint of KCC services. It was a question of looking at the number of offices that we had, where they were located and where it was possible to rationalise. He noted that all registration staff were now KCC employees and KCC thus had more influence over their deployment.

22. Mr Bainbridge also confirmed that the Registration Service has invested in new software which will enable the service to deliver some staffing efficiencies as well as premises savings.

23. In response to a question from Mr Christie, Mr Shipton confirmed that the savings figures for 2009-10 of £2.684m and 2010/11 of £812k were indicative figures only and that the actual figures would need to be agreed as part of the annual budget process for those years.

(f) Budget Book 2008/09

24. In response to a request from Mr Christie, Mr Shipton undertook to supply a comparable figure for Strategic Management in 2007/8. He confirmed that in the 2007/08 budget book the costs of Strategic Management had been apportioned to individual services and that the changed presentation enabled consistent comparison with other portfolios.

(g) Capital Budget

25. Mr Hill undertook to bring a paper on all of the Portfolio's Capital Plans to this Committee within the next six months.

(h) Kent History Centre

26. In response to a question from Mr Law, Mr Hill offered to give a presentation to Policy Overview Committee Members as soon as possible taking into account any commercially sensitive issues at the time.

(i) Village Halls and Community Centres – Capital Grants

27. In response to a question from Mr King, Mr Hill explained that the figure for Village Hall and Community Centres Capital Grants had been £300,000 for a number of years, it had then been increased four years ago to £450,000. However, experience had shown that there had been insufficient applications resulting in an underspend since this figure had been increased, and therefore it is proposed to reduce it back down to the £300,000 per year. Mr Shipton added that the reason only £173k of spend was shown for 2007/08 and £529k planned for 2008/09 was due to slippage of actual payments.

28. Concern was expressed by Members that the high cost of building a village hall and the difficulty of attracting funding from other bodies meant that the £100k cap on KCC contributions resulted in many schemes becoming unviable. Ms Honey agreed to circulate the criteria to Members.

(j) Risk Assessment – MTP Page 54

29. In response to a question from Mr Christie, Ms Honey confirmed that there were a large number of staff within Communities who were employed for less than half time of the time of a full time equivalent, particularly in areas such as the Youth Services, Registration and Adult Education.

30. RESOLVED

- (1) that the Budget 2008-09 and Medium Term Plan 2008-09 to 2010-11 for the Community Services Portfolio be noted along with the responses made to the questions from Members;
- (2) that the Managing Director of Communities and her staff be thanked for their hard work in achieving this proposed budget.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

**CORPORATE POLICY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE –
25 JANUARY 2008**

**BUDGET 2008-09 AND MEDIUM TERM PLAN 2008-09 TO
2010-11**

(Item B2 –Mr P Carter, Leader, Mr A King, Deputy, Deputy Leader, Mr N Chard, Cabinet Member for Finance, Mr G Gibbens, Cabinet Member for Health, Mr P Gilroy, Chief Executive, Mr A Wood, Head of Financial Management and Mr D Honey, Finance Manager were present for this item))

1. The Committee considered the Chief Executive's Directorate Draft Budget proposals as set out in the Draft Budget 2008-09 and the Draft Medium Term Plan 2008-2011 and also the report which was circulated specifically relating to the key areas of these documents for the Chief Executives Department.

2. Mr Carter, Mr Chard, Mr Gilroy, Mr Wood and Mr Wale answered questions from Members which included the following issues:-

(a) Public Health Budget

3. In a response to a question from Mr Smyth, Mr Wood explained that there was funding for LINKs (Local Involvement Networks) in the Area Based Grant and the increase in public health in the Medium Term Plan was shown on page 105 as a base budget adjustment. Mr Gilroy clarified that £492,000 would be received from Government to establish a contract for the LINKs and the administration had put £300,000 in the budget for signposting Health Watch.

(b) European Affairs Group

4. In response to a question from Mr Smyth, Mr King confirmed that the funding for the European Affairs Group included all international activities such as those relating to China and the USA that KCC were currently aware of.

(c) Dedicated School Grant

5. Mr Wood in response to a question from Mr Smyth explained that a proportion of the dedicated school grant went to the Corporate Centre to cover the support that it gave the Children, Families and Education Directorate, and therefore schools in a variety of ways. This was at the same rate as last year.

(d) Strengthening Communications

6. In response to a question from Mr Smyth, Mr Wood explained that the £175,000 pressure for strengthening and enhancing communication on page 106 in the Medium Term Plan related to the line on Corporate Communications on page 39 of the Budget book which showed an increase in budget from 07/08 to 08/09.

(e) Gateways

7. In response to a question from Mr Simmonds, Mr Gilroy explained that the Gateways Programme was being evaluated as it was rolled out and that it was developed as a 50/50 split between KCC and the district councils with involvement from 40 other partners.

8. Mr Gilroy offered produce a report for the March meeting on Gateways setting out data on their effectiveness and the way that they were evaluated. He also issued an invitation to Members to contact him if they would like to visit one of the Gateways and be shown around.

(f) Localism

9. In response to a question from Mrs Dean relating to the £345,000 in the draft budget for supporting localism, Mr Carter referred to the enhanced Local Strategic Partnerships (LSP's) and the Local Area Agreement and emphasised the importance of making sure that there was real partnership working and in order to do that it was necessary to have appropriate officer support. There would be fundamental review of localism and how it was supported.

Mr Wale referred to the visits that the Leader had made to each District Council to discuss localism with their Chief Executive and Leader. He expressed the view that the localism agenda could continue to be delivered by Local Boards or a derivative of them such as Neighbourhood Forums or other ways that District Councils would be happy with.

(g) Reserves

11. In response to a question from Mrs Dean on the adequacy of the levels of reserves, Mr Chard referred Members to the last sentence in Appendix F, page 133 of the Medium Term Plan and stated that the Director of Finance was not recommending any changes in the level of general reserves and the reasons for this were set out in the Medium Term Plan.

(h) Development of Savings for Corporate Support

12. In a response to a question from Ms Harrison, Mr Wood stated that year upon year it became harder to deliver the 3% efficiency

savings. What had been done in Corporate Support was to look at a range of savings in line with the request put to the Policy Overview Committee in November. It had been decided that to assist the process of identifying savings, a peer review of each of the budget areas would be carried out with a peer from another service area looking at an area within Corporate Services with the Financial Support Unit providing data. The process had worked very well and helped to shape savings across the Directorate. The peer review also looked at possibilities of income generation within business units.

13. Mr Gilroy referred to Mr Wild's success with income generation in Legal Services. In the current year he was on track to generate £1m of income.

15. Mr Gilroy explained in more detail about the peer reviews that had been carried out across the authority as part of the building of the budget and invited Members to come and see him if they would like him to explain this in more detail. He also reminded Members that a full "root and branch" review of the authority had been carried out during the restructuring three years ago.

16. RESOLVED:-

- (1) that the Budget 2008-09 and the Medium Term Plan 2008-09 to 2010-11 for the Chief Executives Directorate be noted along with the responses made to the questions from Members;
- (2) that it be noted that a report giving data for the effectiveness of Gateways would be submitted to the March meeting of the Committee.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL**ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES POLICY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE
29 JANUARY 2008****BUDGET 2008/09 AND MEDIUM TERM PLAN 2008/09
TO 2010/11**

(Item B2 – Report by Managing Director, KASS)

(1) Mr Lynes praised the excellent work of the KASS staff at headquarters and the frontline over the past year and said how proud he was of them and their work. He emphasised that, despite the £6m efficiency savings the Directorate had had to identify in the Budget report, at a time of great and increasing demand, both he and KASS remained passionate about service delivery and customer care and Members needed to enable them to carry on delivering an excellent service.

(2) Mr Lynes highlighted the achievements of the Directorate over the last year. Kent Adult Social Services was one of only four local authority Adult Social Services Directorates to retain 3-star status every year since the star ratings began, and had retained 'moderate' eligibility criteria for another year when most other authorities had not. Part of Kent's success was its excellent working relationships with partners in Health and the private and voluntary sectors and the joint working initiatives which were in place. KCC had been successful in a number of bids – the Urgent Care Demonstrator, Brighter Futures, POPPs and the Whole System Demonstrator – but it was important to bear in mind that money won via bids was time-limited. He expressed grave concern about the sustainability of these excellent schemes and initiatives once funding for the pilot schemes came to an end. The POC had also commissioned two Select Committees – Transitional Arrangements and Carers in Kent – whose excellent reports would guide and shape future service delivery.

(3) Staffing Levels

In response to a question put by Mrs Green, and concerns raised by Mrs Green and Mrs Newell, Mr Leidecker explained that it was difficult to give a detailed account of all staff vacancies being held across the County at any one time. Staffing situations in the districts varied, but he assured Members that no one district or team would be holding more than one or two care management vacancies at any one time. The Directorate operated a monthly traffic light system to monitor vacancies and sickness levels within each team. These are assessed by senior managers and used to inform recruitment decisions, with 'red' seen as critical. Mr Mills added that, to ensure maximum capacity, the four acute hospitals in the county, at which KASS care managers were employed in-house, were excluded from any management action.

(4) Legal Costs of PFI arrangements

In response to a question from Mrs Newell, Mr Lynes explained that KCC was working together with district councils on a PFI Initiative 'Better Homes, Active Lives'. As the time had approached for the final PFI agreement to be signed, some districts had become reluctant to share in the unknown level of risk ahead and so, to avoid jeopardising the future of the project, KCC had taken on a greater share of the risk.

(5) Maximising Benefits

In response to a question from Mrs Newell, Mr Leidecker explained that the likely savings to the KCC arising from maximising benefits for Kent residents was very difficult to estimate. KCC and its partners had initiatives in place to support Kent residents to claim maximum benefits available; Age Concern, for example, had started clinics to give benefit advice. Miss Goldsmith added that the Internal Audit were due to start an audit on maximisation of benefits. It was anticipated that this would evidence the effectiveness of the work being undertaken on this, and would also show up the effectiveness of the KCC's message. Pilot schemes between KCC and the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) were in place, using DWP staff seconded to KCC. The problems of identifying and maximising benefits were attached only to existing service users. New service users would have their benefits maximised from the start of their involvement.

(6) Domiciliary Care Charging

In response to a question from Mrs Newell, Mr Mills explained that, once the new domiciliary care charges had been in place for a whole financial year, they would show up as part of the regular base budget and not as a "change".

(7) RESOLVED that the Budget proposals for the Directorate be noted and agreed, and Members' concerns (on staffing levels) expressed in paragraph (3) above be taken into account when preparing the final Budget for ratification by the County Council.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

**CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND EDUCATION POLICY OVERVIEW
COMMITTEE**

30 JANUARY 2008

**BUDGET 2008-09 AND MEDIUM TERM PLAN 2008-09 TO
2010-11**

(Item B2 –Mr P Carter, Leader, Mr M Dance, Cabinet Member – Operations, Resources and Skills, Mr C Wells, Cabinet Member – Children, Families and Educational Achievement, Mr G Badman, Managing Director – Children, Families and Education, Mr K Abbott - Director, Finance and Corporate Services and Mr G Ward – Director, Resources were present for this item)

1. The Committee considered the Children, Families and Education Directorate's Draft Budget proposals set out in the Draft Budget 2008-09 and the Draft Medium Term Plan 2008-2011 and also a report circulated with the agenda which specifically related to the key areas of these documents for Children, Families and Education Directorate.

2. Mr Carter, Mr Dance, Mr Wells, Mr Badman, Mr Abbott and Mr Ward answered questions from Members which included the following issues:-

(a) Income 2008-09

3. In a response to a question from Mr Law on why the income for the two portfolios had not grown in comparison with the gross figure for funding, Mr Abbott briefly explained that one of the key issues with the Dedicated Schools Grant was that the creation of academies reduced this figure. Mr Abbott undertook to supply a detailed response to this.

(b) Council Tax

5. In response to a question from Mr Law, Mr Abbott explained that the majority of funding for education came from the Dedicated School's Grant and therefore there was no top up from the Council Tax.

(c) Dedicated Schools Grant

6. In response to questions from Mr Vye, Mr Abbott confirmed that in relation to the Dedicated Schools Grant for the next three years, officers had been advising schools for over a year that this round of funding would be challenging. He stated that the teachers pay award

would probably mean a 3%-4% increase on the pay bill which may vary locally. Mr Abbott went onto explain that the Ministerial Priorities money would be directed to schools in line with DCSF aims. He expressed the view that the funding for schools would be tighter in 2009/10 than during 2008/09 and he anticipated the need to work with schools to make sure that they did not go into deficit in the second year.

7. Mr Dance stated that the Schools Funding Forum was still considering how funds were to be divided and he undertook to let Members have the information from the Forum when it was available. In relation to Ministerial Priorities, he stated that these were more flexible this year which was helpful.

8. Mr Badman expressed disappointment that the Ministerial Priorities funding was not hypothecated as it was an important tool to drive change.

(d) Strategic Management and Managing Directors Officer and Democratic Services

9. In response to a question from Mr Hart, in relation to the figures for Strategic Management for 2008-09 of £1.8m on page 6 of the Budget Book and Managing Director's Office and Democratic Services of £1.949m on page 13 of the Budget Book, Mr Abbott explained that the Senior Management Team figure the budget for Cabinet Members support, Occupational Health recharge to support schools. As part of the Revenue Budget Medium Term Plan process, officers were always looking for options for savings and as part of the normal monitoring process, these back office areas were particularly kept under review.

10. Mr Wells stated that Members had to bear in mind the size of the educational operation which was run and supported in Kent. He stated that he believed that in relation to the size of the budget, the figure for strategic management was not out of proportion.

(e) Development Opportunities

11. In response to a question from Mr Newman relating to how much of Capital Receipts arising from the sale of school land went to the school. Mr Ward explained that 100% of the money made from these sales (excluding fees and charges) went to the specific school to reinvest. He informed Members that in the past schools had the luxury of being able to borrow money from the local authority to enable them to replace facilities before the disposal of land took place. This was in effect an interest free loan to the school there was now an expectation that if money needed to be borrowed in relation to the scheme, interest would be charged to the school or the local authority as relevant.

(f) Sponsorship of Academies

12. In response to a question from Mr Newman, Mr Ward referred Members to page 11 of the Budget Book which listed the different levels of sponsorship for the academies.

13. In response to a question from Mr Maddison on Dartford College Campus and the joint working between the Children, Families and Education Directorate and Communities Directorate in relation to the youth facility remaining on the site, Mr Carter confirmed that the new school would be happy to share their facilities when they were completed. He stated that 100% of the capital receipt from the Youth Centre site would go to Communities Directorate. It had been difficult to find a solution for the Youth and Community Centre and therefore the development of the school had to go ahead without this being resolved.

(g) Broadband Connectivity

14. In response to a question from Mr Harrison, Mr Ward confirmed that the Government grant for Broadband Connectivity had changed and it was no longer necessary for matched funding to be provided. Funding had been made available to the authority to offer a core free broadband package to all schools. KCC had decided that to offer all schools a free core broadband service with the option to pay extra for more capacity. Therefore, to the school this level of service was provided free by KCC utilising a Government grant of approximately £5m per annum.

(h) Events Officer

15. In response to a question from Mr Harrison, on the dedicated events office support that the Directorate had rather than using the Corporate Events team, Mr Badman gave details of the level of conference's that the Directorate supported by the Children, Families and Education Directorate which required dedicated support.

(i) Academy Projects – Page 11 – Budget Book

16. In response to a question from Mr Desmoyers-Davis, Mrs Hodges replied that the process for establishing an academy was defined by the DCSF and no decision would be made on the establishment of any academy until the consultation and feasibility process had been carried out. There was no guarantee that the academy would be established until the Minister actually signed the funding agreement. Mr Ward stated that as the authority was aware of various proposals to establish academies that were going through their feasibility stage and there it was prudent to include provision for these in the budget.

(j) Portfolio Plans

17. In response to Mrs Angell, Mr Wells stated that he would look with his Cabinet colleague at ensuring that reference to the Every Child Matters outcomes, was reflected in both of the CF&E portfolio statements in the Medium Term Plan.

(k) Children Centres/Sure Start Funding

18. In response to a question from Mrs Angell relating to funding for the nine existing Sure Start Centres, Mr Wells stated that the original nine Sure Start Centres were well funded by Government and KCC were currently in a transition period of moving to a large number of children's centres which would not so generously funded as the original Centres. Mr Badman stated that as there were other children's centres in the area of the original Sure Start Centres, it was appropriate to spread the funding across all of the centres which would deliver integrated services including, for example, advice from the Department of Works and Pensions. Mr Badman mentioned that the Council had put £7m into the budget in addition to the Capital Grant received from Government to provide children's centres

19. RESOLVED

(1) that the Budget 2008-09 and Medium Term Plan 2008-09 to 2010-11 for the Children, Families and Education Directorate be noted along with the responses made to the questions from Members;

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

**ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION POLICY OVERVIEW
COMMITTEE – 31 JANUARY 2008**

**Budget 2008-09 and Medium Term Plan 2008-09 to 2010-11 and
Financial Monitoring Update 2007-08**

Item B1

(Mr K A Ferrin, MBE, Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste, Mr R Gough, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Supporting Independence, Mr A Wilkinson, Managing Director Environment & Regeneration, Mr B Gould, Strategic Finance Advisor and Mr N Caddick, Resource Manager were present for this item)

(1) Members had before them the draft 2008/09 Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan 2008/09 to 2010/11 together with an update of the current position in the current year.

(2) The report specifically covered the Cabinet Member portfolios for Environment, Highways and Waste and Regeneration and Supporting Independence.

(3) In introducing the report Mr Gould referred to the last meeting of the Policy Overview Committee which outlined the Medium Term Plan priorities. This report showed the revenue gross expenditure, income and net expenditure, as contained in Appendices 1 and 2. It also included the Capital Investment Programme in Appendices 3 and 4.

(4) The Committee were informed that the 2008/09 draft Revenue Budget for Environment, Highways and Waste reflected nearly a 15% increase on the current financial year on a "like for like" basis. Attention was drawn specifically to the £5 million injection into Highway maintenance works and a £4 million injection for the expansion of the current year pilot of the "Freedom Pass".

(5) The Committee noted that within the 2008/09 draft Revenue Budget for Regeneration and Supporting Independence there was a transfer in of the Supporting Independence Programme budget of £1 million including Towards 2010 target funding.

(6) Within the Capital Medium Term Financial Plan the Local Transport Plan settlement from government offered a £37m programme of capital maintenance and integrated transport, though with a marked reduction in grant. The proposals before the Committee reflected a full take up of the offer. The programme also reflected a substantial investment in Waste Infrastructure (some £30m over the

Medium Term Financial Plan) and expected starts on East Kent Access Phase 2 and schemes in the Kent Thameside Growth Area.

(7) Turning to the current year's budget the Committee's specific attention was drawn to the underspend in the Revenue Budget on Waste which was due to the non operation of the Allington Plant. Paragraph 9 of the report before the Committee explained the movements in budget heads since the report to the Cabinet on 3 December 2007 which was attached as Appendix 5. The current underspend forecast was £2.465 million. It would be necessary to make further calls on the corporate centre's Emergency Conditions Reserve due to the gales and floods in recent weeks.

(8) With regard to the Regeneration and Supporting Independence portfolio there had been little movement in the budget heads from that reported to Cabinet on 3 December 2007.

(9) The Committee noted that the Capital Programme had seen significant rephasing into future years, as reported to Cabinet. The latest position indicated that further rephasing would be necessary. Every effort was being made to reduce the rephasing on Highways work programmes.

(10) For the Regeneration and Supporting Independence portfolio the forecast showed an increased spend from the report to Cabinet and that expenditure related to the EuroKent spine road.

(11) Mr Gough informed the Committee that much of the regeneration activity goes on through other portfolios. Part of the new Regeneration Strategy and associated restructuring was to ensure better co-ordination of these activities

(12) Mr Ferrin, Mr Gough and Mr Wilkinson then responded to a number of questions from Members which included the following issues:-

Produced in Kent

(13) Mr Gough informed the Committee of the Joint Venture with Hadlow College around 'Produced in Kent'

Current Financial Year Capital Programme

(14) In response to a question about the £2.117m underspend on this financial year's Highways Maintenance and Integrated Transport Scheme Capital Programme the response was that every effort will be made to reduce this re-phasing in the current year.

Congestion

(15) Several Members asked questions about the priorities for reducing congestion across Kent. The Committee noted the work which had been undertaken in Maidstone and the continued work on the Maidstone bridge gyratory system which would need some re-siting of assets owned by EDF Energy. Acknowledging the work already undertaken to reduce congestion in Maidstone town centre the question was asked whether there was any likelihood that the town centre would become an air quality management area.

(16) Priorities after Maidstone were Canterbury and Tunbridge Wells.

(17) After Tunbridge Wells the expected priorities were Thanet and Dartford and Gravesham. The Committee noted that Dartford and Gravesham would be treated as a single area.

(18) The Committee were informed of the ongoing dialogue with the Department of Transport regarding the A2 slip roads at Canterbury and the impact that this would have on reducing congestion within Canterbury city centre.

(19) The inclusion of Kent Thameside in the list of priority plans to reduce congestion was welcomed but the comment was made that much of the problem in this area was relating to roads which were managed by the Highways Agency and not the County Council.

(20) In acknowledging the list of priorities for addressing congestion issues for particular urban areas the question was raised when other areas would be included in the list, for example Sittingbourne and Dover.

Freedom Pass

(21) Members asked about the robustness of the financial figures in terms of the number of persons using the Freedom Pass and whether the scheme when extended across the county would become even more popular. The response was that estimates for the take up of the Freedom Pass as a pilot had far exceeded what was anticipated and that included estimates made by the transport operators for the pilot areas as well. However, the volume increase within the pilot had not created a comparable cost increase. It was therefore felt that the County Council could expect to see an uplift in the use of the Freedom Pass. The Committee noted the synergy between the Freedom Pass and the potential to reduce congestion.

Economic development

(22) One Member expressed the view that the budget was not as substantive for economic development as maybe it should be and

cited a number of countywide initiatives where he felt that the activity could be co-ordinated more effectively through an economic development function.

(23) In response the Committee noted that economic development had for a long time been undertaken by the County Council as a discretionary function. The Committee noted that economic development was planned to be a statutory duty in the future.

RESOLVED:-

(24) That the draft Budget for the Environment, Highways and Waste and Regeneration and Supporting Independence portfolios for 2008/09 and the Medium Term Plan 2008/09 to 2010/11 and the forecast position for the current year's revenue and capital budgets be noted together with the responses made to the questions from Members of the Committee.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 1 FEBRUARY 2008

Draft Medium Term Plan 2008-11 (Incorporating the Budget and Council Tax Setting for 2008/09)

Item 3

(Mr N J D Chard, Cabinet Member for Finance; Mr A Wood, Head of Financial Management; and Mr B Smith, Group Manager, Financial Planning and Budget, were present for the discussion on this item)

RESOLVED that:-

(a) Mr Chard, Mr Wood and Mr Smith be thanked for attending the meeting to answer Members' questions; and they and the staff concerned be thanked for the work put into the preparation of the Budget, and congratulated on producing it in such a clear and easy-to-read form.

(b) The Council be congratulated on achieving Level 4 in the Audit Commission's recently-published Use of Resources Assessment.

(c) The Council be congratulated on its entrepreneurial initiative and innovative ways of increasing income, which had allowed Council Tax and charges to clients to be kept to a minimum.

(d) The apparent increases in "strategic management" costs in many Directorates be noted and the Cabinet Member for Finance be requested to provide a detailed breakdown of those costs.

By: Graham Badman, Managing Director, Children, Families and Education
 Mark Dance, Cabinet Member for Operations, Resources & Skills, CFE
 Chris Wells, Cabinet Member for Children, Families & Educational Standards, CFE

To: Cabinet – 6 February 2008

Subject: UNIT REVIEW (INCLUDING DESIGNATED AND SPECIALIST PROVISION AND VERY SEVERE AND COMPLEX NEED SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEED AT MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS)

Background

1. (1) The Unit Review seeks to ensure an equitable range and spread of resources and provision for children with Special Educational Needs in mainstream schools across the county. The Cabinet paper on 16 October 2006 set out the objectives and strategy of the Review. The Cabinet paper on 13 March 2007 set out in more detail the policy context for the Review and Members agreed the next stages including the consultation process for approving proposals for each area. Members approved the provision proposals in Phase One areas on 17 September 2007.
- (2) This paper provides an update on the implementation of the Review following recent decisions by Cabinet Members and provides details of the outcomes of the first stage of consultations on Phase Two proposals countywide.

Planning and Development of provision

Phase One Clusters

2. (1) In Phase One, there are eight Clusters, Ashford, Shepway and four Clusters of North West Kent. Proposals for these Clusters formed the basis of a consultation process undertaken during the summer term and provision proposals were agreed by Cabinet on 17 September. Following representation from a number of schools, it was agreed by Cabinet in early November that implementation of the Unit Review strategy countywide would be delayed for a year during which time implementation of the Phase One proposals will proceed as a pilot. This will enable the Unit Review steering group to test out the policy within a defined geographical area and to evaluate the impact and response from schools.

- (2) The pilot in Phase One Clusters will focus on the following key elements of the Unit Review policy;
- a) Provision planning arrangements in each Locality
 - b) Development of local multi-agency commissioning arrangements in Clusters within the context of the Local Children's Trusts and the Statutory SEN Code of practice
 - c) Relationships between Local Authority, Local Children's Services Partnerships and Lead school
 - d) Capacity building role of Lead school - Alignment with existing specialist services and providers in the locality, in particular Special Schools
 - e) Outreach role of Lead school – Responsibility for resources and for individual children in other schools

Phase Two Clusters

- (3) All remaining Clusters are part of Phase Two and continued progress has been made on provision proposals for these areas. A first set of proposals has formed the basis of a consultation process during November and December. Proposals for Phase Two provision have been presented with an implementation date of September 2009. Consultations took place in seven areas of the County with a public meeting in each area during the six-week consultation period. Whilst issues and concerns were raised and addressed in each area, the response to the key elements of the policy was **positive**. Written responses show 59% support for the Unit Review proposals across the seven areas.
- (4) A summary of the outcome in each area and the key issues raised during the consultation is attached at Appendix One. A series of responses and actions are being prepared by the Steering Group in order to address the concerns raised by stakeholders, to improve the understanding of the policy and to reassure parents in particular.

Capital Implications of Phase Two proposals

Primary provision

3. (1) The majority of provision proposed in Phase Two for primary aged children is in schools where there are existing units. In the case of new provision, the schools concerned have capacity within the existing buildings and minor refurbishment of classroom space will be required. In some cases, space for provision is part of the Children's Centre developments within the school. In the case of two schools (Cage Green primary school in Tonbridge and West Malling primary school in Malling) with existing units referred to above, the condition of the current unit buildings is unsatisfactory and the capital implications are more significant. The preferred solution by both schools is a new build attached to the main part of the school.

Secondary provision

- (2) The majority of the new and existing provision in Phase Two for secondary aged children is proposed either in schools with current unit accommodation or in schools where there is a BSF. The required space for the proposed Lead school provision will be planned therefore within the overall BSF planning for the school buildings.
- (3) Initial calculations of the cost of the significant items referred to above are attached at Appendix Two. Detailed work is ongoing on the overall capital implications of Phase Two proposals and will be reported to KCC Cabinet in the summer prior to any final decisions on provision proposals for these areas.

Funding Proposals

4. (1) Proposals for new funding arrangements, which fit with the new structure of provision implicit in the Review strategy, have been developed by a working party established in April. In addition to the relevant CFE officers, the working party included members of the Schools Funding Forums, Headteachers and Teachers in Charge of current units and designations and Local Education Officer representation. These proposals were modeled and presented to all Lead schools and Special Schools during September and October. Feedback on the proposed formula was varied with some issues raised including the level of funding for new provision in the first few years, the indicators used to allocate funding and the inclusion of VSCN funding within the formula.
- (2) Following the decision by Cabinet to delay consultation on the formula until Autumn 2009, it is proposed that the steering group will reconsider the funding proposals with the working party and taking account of feedback, present a revised proposal for consideration to the Schools Funding Forums next year.

Revised Timetable

5.

First stage consultation on Phase Two proposals	November/December 2007
Feedback to KCC Cabinet on outcome of Phase Two consultation	6 February 2008
Second stage consultation on Phase Two proposals	May 2008
Development of funding proposals including presentation to the Schools Funding Forum	May/June 2008
Update to KCC Cabinet on Phase Two consultations and Funding proposals	July 2008
Start of Phase One pilot	September 2008
Consultation on revised Funding formula	Autumn 2008
Final consideration and agreement by KCC Cabinet on provision and funding proposals for implementation in September 2009	January 2009
Start of Unit Review countywide implementation	September 2009

Recommendations:

6. Cabinet Members are asked to:

- (a) NOTE the progress of the Unit Review and AGREE the changes to the timetable detailed at paragraph 5.
- (b) NOTE the feedback and issues raised by stakeholders during the Phase Two consultation process detailed at Appendix 1.
- (c) NOTE the potential capital implications of Phase Two proposals detailed at paragraph 3 and Appendix 2.

7. **Background Papers:**

Cabinet Report – Unit Review – 17 September 2007
Cabinet Report – Unit Review – 12 March 2007
Cabinet Report – Unit Review – 16 October 2006

8. **Author Contact Details:**

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Unit Review - Outcome of Phase Two Consultation

1. Common Issues and concerns raised during the Phase Two consultation process

- Condition of existing unit buildings

In one area of Phase Two, the Tonbridge and Malling district, the dominant issue raised by parents, schools and other stakeholders was the condition of the existing unit accommodation at the West Malling Language Unit and the Cage Green Autism Unit. Parents of children attending these units said that while the support and resources provided by the staff was excellent, the unit accommodation was unsatisfactory. The management, Governors and staff of both schools' are committed to the Lead school concept and to developing their role in supporting children with Special Educational Needs in the future. However they believe that investment in the facilities at the school is required.

- Resourcing of provision

A major theme and discussion point throughout the consultation was the resourcing of the proposals. References were made in many responses and comments to the following areas that require consideration – capacity building role of Lead schools, Health Therapy services and training. As part of the Unit Review project, there are a number of established groups involving representation from Lead schools, Special Schools, the Specialist Teaching Service and the Health services with a focus on planning for each of these areas. The Unit Review steering group is acutely aware of the need to maintain the momentum of this work. It is vital to ensure that all planning is aligned with the wider review of therapy provision within the Health service, the planning of CFE specialist services as a whole and the development of local Children's Trusts.

- Consultation process

The following feedback was provided by stakeholders on the consultation process at public meetings. Parents/carers believed that the consultation document should be sent to a wider audience of parents directly. The consultation document was posted to parents of children in unit provision and was further circulated to all schools in each area. The Steering group will address this concern for future consultations by circulating hard copies to the wider group of all parents of children with statements in Kent. A number of stakeholders also felt that six weeks was insufficient period for the consultation and that in some cases insufficient notice was given of public meetings. The steering group will address this concern by extending the period of consultation in the future.

- Impact of the extended role on Unit staff and management

Parents of children currently in Unit provision in particular, raised concerns about the potential dilution of support to children in placements as a result of the additional expectation on staff to deliver support and develop capacity within other mainstream schools. The steering group has emphasised that provision from each Lead school will be developed gradually taking full account of the capacity and resources available. Lead schools will be working and planning in partnership with the Cluster team and other existing specialist providers of support to mainstream in the locality.

– Alignment with other local specialist services

Current providers of specialist support, in particular Special Schools, have raised their concerns regarding the future alignment and organisation of services within each locality. Existing specialist services with high levels of expertise and knowledge in outreach have issues with the term 'lead' being used to describe mainstream provision where in some cases, there is expertise in delivering support to children on site but not of delivering support to other schools. Providers are concerned about the potential shift in resources from existing centres of expertise like Special schools to the new 'Lead' schools. The planning of a coherent range of provision in each locality and arrangements for services to work together will be a key focus of the Phase One pilot. This will include joint planning with the relevant therapy services. The steering group includes representation from all providers and is working to ensure that this element of the policy is considered and implemented correctly. Further consideration will also be given to the resourcing of outreach provision to mainstream countywide.

2. Response to consultation by area

Proposed Lead Schools - Thanet			
	Primary	Secondary	
ASD	Hereson/Ellington		
SLCN	Hereson/Ellington		
SpLD	Hereson/Ellington		
HI		Hartsdown	
VI			
PD	Garlinge	Hartsdown	
Consultation Response - Thanet			
	Yes	No	Total
Parents/carers	84	4	88
School Staff	9	0	9
Other	24	3	27
Total	117	7	124
	94%	6%	

Proposed Lead Schools - Canterbury		
	Primary	Secondary
ASD	Joy Lane	The Abbey
SLCN	Wincheap	
SpLD		Archbishops
HI	Briary	Sittingbourne Community
VI	Reculver	Archbishops
PD	Pilgrim's Way Hampton	St Anselm's

Consultation Response - Canterbury				
	Yes	No	Undecided	Total
Parents/carers	11	2	2	15
School Staff	6	1		7
Other	2	1		3
Total	19	4	2	24
	76%	18%	6%	

Proposed Lead Schools - Swale		
	Primary	Secondary
ASD	Joy Lane Minster on	The Abbey
SLCN	Minterne/The Oaks Bysing Wood	Sittingbourne Community College
SpLD		Westlands
HI	Briary	Sittingbourne Community
VI	Reculver	Archbishops
PD	Westminster	Westlands

Consultation Response - Swale				
	Yes	No	Undecided	Total
Parents/carers	4	11	1	16
School Staff	2	5		7
Other		4	1	5
Total	6	20	2	28
	21%	71%	8%	

Proposed Lead Schools - Maidstone		
	Primary	Secondary
ASD	West Borough	Astor of Hever
SLCN	West Malling	The Malling School
SpLD		The Malling School
HI	Molehill Copse	Maplesden Noakes
VI	Cornwallis	
PD	Loose Junior	Senacre

Consultation Response - Maidstone		
	Yes	No
Parents/carers	6	
School Staff	8	
Other		
Total	14	0
	100%	

Proposed Lead Schools - Tunbridge Wells/Cranbrook & Paddock Wood & Sevenoaks South		
	Primary	Secondary
ASD	Cage Green	
SLCN	West Malling	The Malling School
<u>ASD/SLCN</u>	Communication & Interaction Hub (Primary, Secondary & Special) - St Mathew's High Broom as Lead school	
SpLD		The Malling School
HI	Slade	
VI		
PD		Hugh Christie

Consultation Response - Tunbridge Wells/Cranbrook & Paddock Wood/Sevenoaks South				
	Yes	No	Undecided	Total
Parents/carers	3	12	4	19
School Staff	17	7		24
Other	2	2		4
Total	22	21	4	
	47%	45%	8%	

Proposed Lead Schools - Tonbridge & Malling		
	Primary	Secondary
ASD	Cage Green	The Malling School
SLCN	West Malling	The Malling School
SpLD		The Malling School
HI	Slade Molehill Copse	Maplesden Noakes
VI	Cornwallis	
PD	East Peckham	Hugh Christie Senacre

Consultation Response - Tonbridge & Malling				
	Yes	No	Undecided	Total
Parents/carers	4	23	4	31
School Staff	7	36	2	45
Other	3	5	1	9
Total	14	64	7	85
	16%	76%	8%	

Proposed Lead Schools - Dover & Deal		
	Primary	Secondary
ASD		Archer's Court
SLCN	The Downs Priory Fields	Walmer
SpLD		Walmer
HI	Castle Hill Cheriton	Christchurch
VI	Morehall	Pent Valley
PD	Whitfield & Aspen	Castle Community School

Consultation Response - Dover & Deal*				
	Yes	No	Undecided	Total
Parents/carers	3	1	0	4
School Staff	1	1	1	3
Other		1		1
Total	4	3	1	8
	50%	37%	13%	

*Due to the low response in the Dover consultation process, a second set of consultation documents have been circulated notifying stakeholders of a second public meeting to take place in January. Responses will be added to the report on the Dover consultation and made available to Cabinet Members as soon as possible.

Cabinet – 6 February 2008

Unit Review

Capital Implications of Phase Two proposals

Two major capital projects identified in Phase Two through the consultation on the Unit Review proposals are the necessity for new accommodation for the existing Units at Cage Green and West Malling primary schools.

Initial costings for new buildings providing their current accommodation have been estimated as follows;

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| – Cage Green | £1.1 million |
| – Autism Unit with capacity for 27 children | |
| – West Malling Primary school | |
| – Language Unit with capacity for 24 children | £500,000 |

Both these estimates include professional fees. This expenditure could be viewed as not being a consequence of the Units Review but the need for an improvement to/modernisation of old and unsuitable facilities.

In formulating the Capital Programme for the period 2008-09 - 2010-11 Cabinet Members agreed that we would not have a new Modernisation Programme for at least the next 3 years. An alternative would be to replace the facilities with mobile accommodation, which would reduce this cost.

By: Graham Badman, Managing Director, Children, Families and Education
 Chris Wells, Cabinet Member for Children, Families & Educational Standards, CFE
 Mark Dance, Cabinet Member for Operations, Resources and Skills, CFE

To: Cabinet – 6 February 2008

Subject: Targeted Youth Support

Classification: Unrestricted

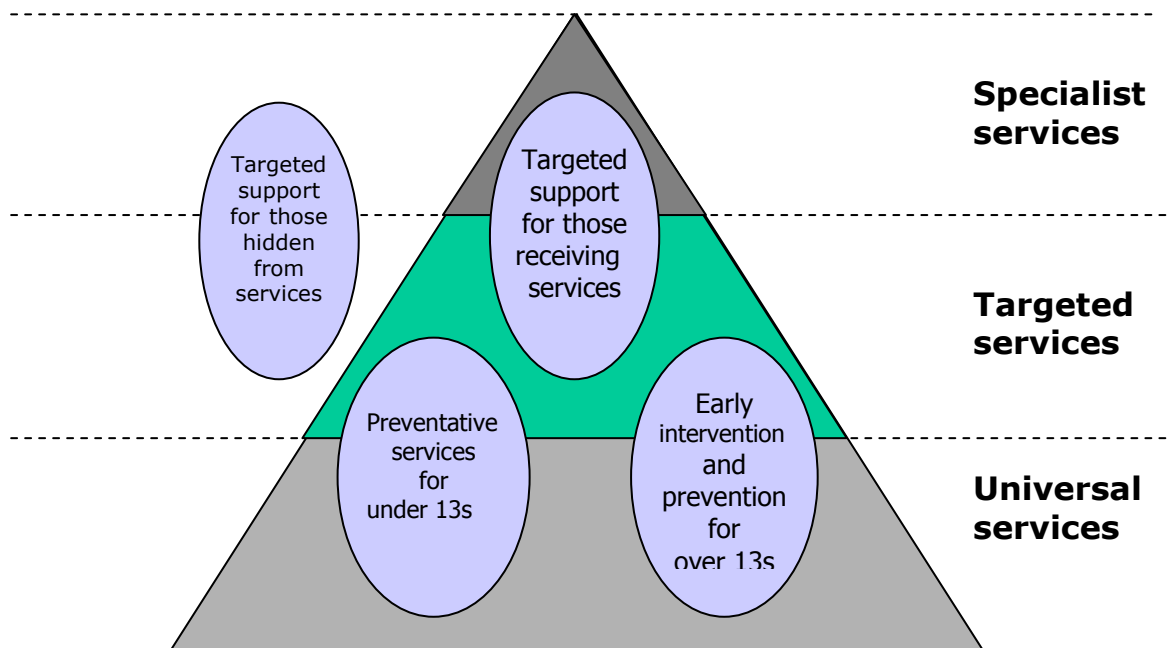
Summary: This paper outlines the next steps for Kent to implement Targeted Youth Support (TYS), a key branch of Integrated Youth Support Services (IYSS). Both initiatives are derived from the Youth Matters Green Paper, launched in July 2005, within the Every Child Matters framework. The Green Paper's main concerns focused on barriers to young people's progression and well being.

This paper (which was formulated at a joint meeting of senior management teams from the Children, Families and Education and Communities Directorate) recommends the next steps towards implementing YYS in Kent.

Introduction

1. (1) Targeted Youth Support is one of the four Youth Matters elements and, therefore, is a key branch of Integrated Youth Support Services. Its aim is to "ensure that the needs of vulnerable teenagers are identified early and met by agencies working together effectively – in ways that are shaped by the views and experiences of young people themselves." The key elements of YYS are:
 - Strengthening the influence of vulnerable young people and their families to bring about positive change.
 - Identifying vulnerable young people early, in the context of their everyday lives.
 - Using the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) to build a clear picture of individual needs shared by young people and agencies working with them.
 - Enabling young people to receive early support in universal settings.
 - Providing a personalised package of support, Information, Advice and Guidance, and learning and development opportunities for vulnerable young people, coordinated by a trusted lead professional and delivered by agencies working well together.
 - Providing support across transitions, for example moving on from school or from one service to another.

- Making services more accessible, attractive and relevant for vulnerable young people.
- (2) TYS is aimed at those young people who may not meet traditional thresholds for statutory or specialist services, but may be at risk of further problems if their difficulties are not addressed early enough. The scale of support is illustrated below (based on a diagram from the TDA):



Change Process

2. (1) The Targeted Youth Support Guide recommends that a structured change process is followed to ensure that the reforms are implemented effectively through collaboration. The process has five stages which are summarised below:
- (2) **Mobilise**
- Identify Project Manager
 - Map and engage stakeholders
 - Ensure young people are at the centre of the project
 - Project team in place
 - Robust project in place
- (3) **Discover**
- Assess needs
 - Increase staff awareness • Hold Multi-Agency workshop

- (4) **Deepen**
 - Collect and analyse data and present to SMTs
 - Project team identify priorities
 - Young people remain the focus
- (5) **Develop**
 - Local change teams in place
 - Allocate resources
 - Quick wins being delivered
- (6) **Deliver**
 - Implement change plan
 - Measure outcomes
 - Embed change process
 - Continuous communication

Progress To Date

- 3. (1) A group of KCC officers attended a series of national workshops and undertaken a self-evaluation for Kent using the Self-Assessment Toolkit. This has identified the following 10 key areas for development, in priority order:
 - (a) Effective lead professional practices
 - (b) Clear goals for service reform
 - (c) A comprehensive plan for service reform
 - (d) Building a clear picture of individual need
 - (e) Workers getting equipped and trained
 - (f) Effective information sharing
 - (g) A strategy focused on sustainability
 - (h) Involving young people, their families, carers and communities in the case for change
 - (i) Long-term workforce development
 - (j) Identifying young people early
- (2) Progress already made in Kent includes the establishment of on-line Directories that will enable workers and young people and their parents (from March) to identify the many learning and leisure opportunities open to them. Development of pilots will assist in demonstrating the pathways through which targeted support can be accessed when needed and will build on the increasing use of the Common Assessment Framework. Many examples exist in Kent of integrated services for vulnerable young people combining health, education and social provision such as that provided in Adolescent Resource Centres and these will be built on. Additional information will be derived from comprehensive surveys of young people such as the recent Youth Service Survey, NFER Survey and Bullying Survey. Such surveys also provide information on key target groups such as Traveller young people, those not in education, employment or training and Young Carers.

National Requirements for TYS Implementation

4. (1) National deadlines require that:
- By **March 2008**: every Local Authority must be piloting TYS in at least one locality and have a robust plan for roll-out across the whole area
 - By **December 2008**: full roll out across the entire Local Authority area.
- (2) DCSF acknowledges that Kent has 'begun reform in many aspects of TYS reforms' and emphasises the importance of reforms in meeting priorities for vulnerable young people, including youth PSA targets and the new Youth PSA. Government Office for the South East will conduct a ministerial review of Kent's progress in meeting these reforms at the end of January.

Next Steps

5. (1) The following actions are recommended:

(a) Project Lead –The Project Lead (0.5 FTE) would be responsible for:-

- Developing an implementation and sustainability plan for (a) the pilot area(s) and (b) the countywide rollout.
- Identifying countywide and locality needs and priorities and commissioning services as appropriate.
- Ensuring links with the IYSS cross-Directorate Group;
- Co-ordinating a locality operational team/working group for each pilot area.
- Ensuring effective communication and engagement with staff, stakeholders, young people and their families/carers.
- Supporting the development of the pilots and evaluating their impact.
- Engaging young people in the development of the pilots.
- Ensuring TYS is embedded in the local Children & Young People's Plans.

(b) TYS Project Team – a project team should be established at a countywide level to support the implementation of the Project Plan. This Project Team will expand on the current working group, and should include representation essential to successful delivery including:

KCC	Commissioning Health Children's Social Services Policy Extended Services in and around schools 14-24 Unit Youth Offending Service Youth Service Kent Drug and Alcohol Action Team
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Other Agencies District Councils
 Voluntary and Community Sector
 Connexions Kent and Medway
 Housing (from a pilot area)
 Police
 Other relevant non-governmental organisations e.g.
 Charlton Athletic Football Club, Rainer,

(c) TYS Pilots – Two pilot areas should be developed by the end of March 2008. Due to the fact that Integrated Processes (Common Assessment Framework, lead professional, Single Point of Access) are key to the delivery of TYS it is recommended that at least one of these areas is an existing pilot (Canterbury Coastal and Canterbury City & Countryside). A **third pilot** option could be to evaluate the implementation of TYS in the context of the Connexions target to reduce the number of NEETs.

(d) Locality Operational Team – a locality operational team reflecting the membership of the Project Team should be established for each pilot area.

(e) Proposed timeframe - to implement TYS by the new deadlines:

Date	Action
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workshops (delivered by the TDA) to raise awareness run in pilot areas - - Project Lead nominated - Pilot areas agreed and key personnel identified - Project Team established - Local operational groups identified
January / February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paper to Cabinet - Joint plans developed in pilots - Training workshops (delivered by TDA) organised as appropriate - Plan for roll-out written
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Launch of pilots - Services commissioned as appropriate
April - July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Running and evaluation of pilots - Planning and awareness-raising workshops to be run in non-pilot areas
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Progress Report to management teams and options to go to the Kent Children's Trust and Cabinet with recommendations for roll-out
August-September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finalise roll-out plan
October - December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Launch and implement roll-out in conjunction with local Children's Trusts - Continue to raise awareness and train staff
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Full roll-out implemented across the county

Financial Implications:

6. There are no financial implications for Targeted Youth Support. All services will be delivered within existing budgets.

Recommendations:

7. Cabinet is requested to agree to the recommendations for:-
- (a) a TYS Project Lead;
 - (b) the establishment of the Project Team;
 - (c) the proposed pilots in Canterbury and another geographical area and consider the merit of the third pilot involving the reduction of young people who are NEET; and
 - (d) the proposed timeframe for implementation of pilots and roll-out across the county.

8. Background Documents:

Targeted Youth Support: A Guide (available at www.ecm.gov.uk/IG00206)

9. Author Contact Details:

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By: Graham Badman, Managing Director - Children, Families & Education
 Mark Dance, Cabinet Member for Operations, Resources and Skills, CFE

To: Cabinet – 6th February 2008

Subject: LA PROPOSED CO-ORDINATED SCHEME FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN KENT AND ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED SCHOOLS 2009-10

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: To report on the outcome of the consultation on the proposed admission arrangements for transfer to Primary and Secondary schools in September 2009. Cabinet is asked to determine the admission arrangements for that school year and determine the coordinated schemes for Primary & Secondary.

Introduction

1. (1) The LA, as the admissions authority for Community and Voluntary Controlled schools, is required to consult on its proposed admission arrangements for these schools annually, and to determine its admission arrangements by 15 April each year.
- (2) The Education Act 2002 introduced a duty on each LA, to formulate a scheme to co-ordinate admission arrangements for all maintained schools in its area and to take action to secure the agreement to the scheme by all admission authorities. In 2007 17 admission authorities for Secondary Schools in Kent have objected to the proposals to co-ordinate admissions to all Kent secondary schools in September 2009. Failure to reach agreement between admission authorities requires that the Secretary of State imposes a scheme. Cabinet are requested to determine the 2009 Co-ordinated scheme for Admissions in order that this can be sent to the Secretary of State for consideration when imposing a scheme for Secondary Transfer. The Primary Admissions Scheme has been agreed by all admission authorities and determined arrangements can be implemented without intervention.
- (3) All admission arrangements identified in this document are outside the arrangements for pupils with statements of special education need which take place in accordance with the SEN Code of Practice (2001) Paragraph 5.72.

- (4) The LA has consulted the headteachers and chairmen of governors of all Kent primary and secondary schools; neighbouring LAs; diocesan bodies; independent schools (which have pupils transferring to secondary schools); and other interested bodies on its proposals to co-ordinate admissions to all Kent secondary schools in September 2008.
- (5) The LA consulted with the Admissions Forum on the content of the consultation. The forum will be considering the proposed arrangements for determination on 24th January. It is expected that there will be a similar divide as has been the case from Admissions Authorities within Kent.

Consultation and Outcome

2. The consultations considered the following aspects:

- (a) The Primary Co-ordinated Admission Scheme for 2009/10;
- (b) The Secondary Co-ordinated Admission Scheme for 2009/10;
- (c) Over-subscription criteria for Community and Voluntary Controlled Primary and Secondary schools;
- (d) The relevant statutory consultation areas for Primary and Secondary schools;
- (e) Published admission numbers for Community and Voluntary Controlled Primary and Secondary schools.

(a) The Primary Co-ordinated Scheme

3. All Primary Admissions Authorities within Kent agreed to the proposed Co-ordinated scheme. In total 139 schools responded to the consultation and further details of comments made are available in Appendix A.

(b) The Secondary Co-ordinated Scheme

4. Initially 22 out of a possible 65 Secondary School Admission Authorities failed to agree to the proposed Scheme supporting testing before preference. A further written attempt to seek agreement resulted in 3 schools changing their position but ultimately the LA do not have agreement on a coordinated scheme from all admissions authorities and the Secretary of State will be required to impose a scheme. Comments and feedback on this consultation is in Appendix A.

(c) The Oversubscription Criteria for Primary and Secondary Community and Voluntary Controlled schools.

5. The oversubscription criteria have not changed from 2008/09, details for the Primary arrangements are in Appendix C and Secondary arrangements in Appendix B the comments made as part of the consultation are in Appendix A

(d) Relevant Statutory Consultation Area

6. Details of the relevant statutory consultation areas have not changed from 2008/09, details for the Primary arrangements are in Appendix C and Secondary arrangements in Appendix B the comments made as part of the consultation are outlined in Appendix A

(e) Published Admission Numbers

7. The proposed Published Admission Numbers for Community and Voluntary Controlled schools were included in the consultation document. Comments are located in Appendix A and details of the proposed Numbers for Determination are located in Appendix B (Secondary) and Appendix C (Primary)

8. Recommendations

Cabinet is asked TO AGREE:

- (a) That the proposed scheme to co-ordinate admissions to Primary schools in September 2009 is determined as set out in Appendix C.
- (b) That the proposed scheme to co-ordinate admissions to Secondary schools in September 2009 is determined as set out in Appendix B.
- (c) That the oversubscription criteria detailed in Appendix B and Appendix C relating to Community and Voluntary Controlled Primary and Secondary schools are determined for 2009.
- (d) That the relevant statutory consultation areas detailed in Appendix B and Appendix C relating to Community and Voluntary Controlled Primary and Secondary schools are determined for 2009.
- (e) That the Published Admission Numbers for Community and Voluntary Controlled Primary and Secondary schools are determined as set out in Appendix B and Appendix C.

9. Background Documents:

None.

10. Author Contact Details:

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Appendix A

Responses to the formal consultations on the Primary and Secondary Coordinated Schemes and Admissions Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools.

1. Primary Co-ordinated Scheme & Admissions Arrangements

1.1 Consultation on Primary Scheme

All Primary admission authorities within Kent agreed the scheme. Out of the 154 schools who responded (94 Voluntary Aided & Foundation admission authorities and 60 Local Authority Controlled school) and the Rochester Diocesan agreed the scheme. Only 1 response returned by a LA controlled school disagreed to the scheme (Herne Infant School).

The following comments were made:

Disadvantage of late catholic applicants	1 comment
St Johns Catholic Primary School, Gravesend, indicated concerns over late applicants applying after the 30 January regarded them disadvantaged as they are unable to gain a place in a catholic school. <i>The LA do not share this view</i>	
Primary Scheme is successful and fair.	3 comments
Sissinghurst Church of England Primary School, Ramsgate, Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School, Diocesan & Payne Smith Church of England Primary School	
Date of RCAF return	1 comment
Herne Church of England Infant School (LA controlled) Disagreed the scheme stating the RCAF return date of 16 January 2010 clashed with the school census and suggested 23 January as an alternative date. <i>The LA have moved the closing date to the 19 January.</i>	

1.2 Consultation on Oversubscription Criteria

The above oversubscription criteria for all Community and Voluntary Controlled primary schools is outlined in Appendix C and was agreed by 132 Schools. 7 School's did not agree: Bredgar Church of England Primary School (VA), Holy Trinity & St John's CE Primary (VA), St Philip Howard Catholic Primary School (VA), Great Chart Primary School (LA), Herne C.E. Infant & Nursery School (LA) Kingsnorth Church of England Primary (LA), St Peter's Methodist Primary School (LA). 4 schools felt unable to answer the question: Colliers Green CEP School (VA), Ditton CE Junior School (VA), Our Lady of Hartley Catholic Primary School (VA) & St Simon RCP School (VA).

The following comments were made:

General Oversubscribing Criteria	4 Comments
<p>Diocesan & Payne Smith agreed the oversubscription criteria was clear & well communicated.</p> <p>Bredgar Church of England Primary School disagreed with the oversubscription criteria stating Community & VC Schools should have different criteria to suit the needs of the school</p> <p>Great Chart Primary School disagreed with the oversubscription criteria stating at some point the oversubscription criteria should include pupils of teachers at the school to be given priority. If Kent want to keep good teachers then provision should be given to them in the admission process. <i>This would be unlawful</i></p> <p>Wentworth Primary School disagreed with the oversubscription criteria stating 'Parental choice' should be ranked higher than 'nearness'. We would much prefer to offer a place to a parent who wants their child to attend our school, but who lives further away, than to offer a place to a parent who lives very close but puts our school as last choice. <i>This would be viewed as first preference first which is now illegal.</i></p>	
Special Education Needs Criteria	1 Comment
<p>Harcourt Primary School agreed to the oversubscription criteria however raised concerns over schools having the ability to exclude children due to their disabilities. <i>The LA do not consider this is the case.</i></p>	
Current Family Association	1 Comments
<p>Sissinghurst Church of England Primary School (Aided) stated the oversubscription criteria is fair for siblings.</p>	
Denominational Preference	5 comments
<p>Deal Parochial Church of England Primary School commented this could compromise the denominational criteria, an example being Looked after Children have a higher priority than denominational grounds. <i>This is in line with Admissions Code.</i></p> <p>Kingsnorth Church of England Primary School disagreed commented VC schools should place sibling link above that of denominational preferences.</p> <p>St Gregory's Catholic Primary School & St Mary's CE (VA) Primary School, agreed the oversubscription criteria and raised the point church schools would usually ask for the baptismal certificate.</p> <p>St Philip Howard Catholic Primary School disagreed with the oversubscription criteria and commented Voluntary Controlled Church of England schools should be allowed to keep their uniqueness by having church attendance as their oversubscription criteria 2.</p> <p>St Peter's Methodist Primary School disagreed the oversubscription criteria stating denominational preference should be made clearer on the form</p>	
Current Family Association	1 Comment
<p>Sissinghurst Church of England Primary School agreed the criteria and commented it was fair for siblings</p>	
Nearness of a Child's home to School	4 Comments

<p>Sissinghurst Church of England School agreed to the oversubscription criteria and commented this was easier for gauging distance from school.</p> <p>Herne C.E. Infant & Nursery School disagreed stating as detailed, it may lead to confusion re the sibling connection. It appears that siblings in a linked Junior school have priority over siblings within the same school. They should have the same weighting and should be made clearer in order to avoid misinterpretation.</p> <p>Holy Trinity & St John's CE Primary disagreed the scheme stating some account should be taken of schools with maintained nurseries on site. Could this be regarded as a link in the same way as infant and junior schools are linked. <i>This would contravene the Admissions Code.</i></p> <p>St Peter's Methodist Primary School disagreed with the oversubscription criteria stating distance should be increased to three miles. Schools in the city centre are often surrounded by small terraced houses. As families expand, parents want to move to larger accommodation but are often faced with siblings not then being eligible for the same school</p>	
Unable to Comment	4 Comments
<p>Colliers Green CEP School, Ditton Junior School, Our Lady of Hartley Catholic Primary School & St Simon RCP School, felt as the schools are VA / Foundation Schools they were in no place to comment.</p>	

1.3 Consultation on Relevant Statutory Consultation Area

135 Schools agreed the above criteria 2 Schools disagreed: St Philip Howard Catholic Primary School VA and Frittenden CEP School (LA). 2 Schools felt unable to comment: Colliers Green CEP School & Our Lady of Hartley Catholic Primary School.

The following comments were raised:

Defined Distances	2
<p>Frittenden CEP School disagreed and commented three miles may not be sufficient in rural areas</p> <p>Riverview Infant School agreed however commented caution must be taken where a family has moved and is happy to travel further to keep child in same school and then wishes siblings to attend as well.</p>	
General Comments	2
<p>Sissinghurst Church of England Primary School (Aided) agreed with the consultation areas</p> <p>St Philip Howard School disagreed and commented catholic schools should be involved, as there could be an impact on pupil numbers if church attendance is not a requirement for faith schools.</p>	
Defined Districts	1 Comment
<p>The Anthony Roper School commented the school is closer to Swanley & district and the school would need to liaise with these schools.</p>	
Unable to Comment	2
<p>Colliers Green CEP School & Our Lady of Hartley Catholic Primary School</p>	

1.4 Consultation on Published Admissions Numbers

134 Admission authorities agreed the Planned Admission Numbers for LA schools. 1 LA school disagreed: Frittenden CEP School 4 Schools felt they were unable to comment: Holy Family RCP School, Our Lady of Hartley Catholic Primary School, St Gregory’s Catholic Primary School, St John’s Catholic Primary School Gravesend.

Canon John Smith from the Rochester Diocesan Board felt there could be an increase in PAN see note below.

Omitted Schools / PANs	
Frittenden CEP did not agree as they felt the PAN of all schools should be included in the consultation. Sissinghurst CEP School has been omitted from Paddock Wood and Cranbrook cluster. Brenchley & Matfield CEP School have been omitted from the list of PAN <i>Brenchley & Matfield CEP School is is a VA school and may not have consulted on their admissions arrangements by the time the consultation was agreed.</i> St Gregory’s Catholic Primary School could not understand why catholic schools were not listed. <i>Catholic schools are Voluntary Aided and therefore may not have consulted on their admissions arrangements alongside the LA. The information may not have been available at this time.</i>	
Increasing PAN	1 Comment
I would prefer that Watringbury be raised to 40, as the school is very popular, and with a certain amount of good will could be expanded in a context where proposed funding changes might mean a need for more accommodation in C of E Schools in the area	

2. Secondary Co-ordinated Scheme & Admissions Arrangements

2.1 Consultation on Co-ordinated Secondary Scheme

The following schools did not agree to the LA consultation on the co-ordinated scheme with Testing Before Preference:

Bennett Memorial Diocese School	The Skinners’ School
Bradbourne School	St Anselm’s Catholic Comprehensive School
Canterbury High School	St Gregory’s Catholic Comprehensive School
Chatham House Grammar School	St Johns Catholic Comprehensive School
Dover Grammar School for Boys	St Simon Stock Catholic School
The Hayesbrook School	Weald of Kent Grammar School
Homewood School	Ursuline College
Hugh Christie Technology School	
Mascalls School	
Minister College	

Key reasons identified for objecting to the Co-ordinated Secondary Admission scheme:

1. Disadvantages non selective school (especially comprehensives)

Raised by: Bennett Memorial Diocesan School, Canterbury High School Mascalls School & St Gregory's Catholic Comprehensive School

2. Children not fully developed in September especially boys

Raised by: Chatham House Grammar School, Folkestone School for Girls, Mascalls School, Skinners School, St Gregory's Catholic Comprehensive School & St Simon Stock Catholic School.

3. The test dates needs to be later than September

Raised by: Chatham House Grammar School (test in Nov / Dec) Dover Grammar School for Boys, Folkestone School for Girls, St Gregory's Catholic Comprehensive School believe September is too early) Skinners School (later in September), Tonbridge Grammar School (test in October). Weald of Kent Grammar School (test in November),

4. Families who cannot afford summer tutoring will be disadvantaged

Raised by: Dover Grammar School for Boys, Homewood School, Skinners School & Tonbridge Grammar School.

5. Unsettled pupils due to return from summer break and new environment.

Raised by Bennett Memorial Diocesan, Skinners School & Tonbridge Grammar School

6. Tight timetable – no margin for error or out of county testing

Raised by Homewood School, Leigh Technology Academy, St Gregory's Catholic Comprehensive.

7. Increasing number of choices encourages parents to name school they do not really want their children to attend.

Raised by Homewood School, St Gregory's Catholic Comprehensive.

8. Increased pressure, stress level & emotional pressure on year 5 pupils due to earlier testing – contradicts Every Child Matters policy.

Raised by: Mascalls School, St Gregory's Catholic Comprehensive, Weald of Kent Grammar School.

9. Demotivation of pupils leading to poor attendance & KS2 results.

Raised by Skinners' School, Homewood School, St Gregory's Catholic Comprehensive

10. Return to 1st preference 1st

Raised by St Gregory's Catholic Comprehensive, St Simon Stock Catholic School

11. Learning loss due to summer break

Raised by Tonbridge Grammar School

12. Retain existing scheme.

Raised by: Bennett Memorial Diocesan School – change to current system unnecessary, Hugh Christie Technology College – 1st pref 1st abolished why alter scheme again.

St Simon Stock Catholic School – want period of stability, Tonbridge Grammar school – no legal requirement to alter testing under the code only recommendation – why alter?

13. Appeals will not be heard until 5 months after decision

Raised by Homewood School

14. Additional Comments

Tonbridge Grammar School - protests in the strongest terms that parents are not provided with their 11+ score at the time they are informed of their result as set out in proposal 6 for the following reasons. 1) Parents who wish to apply to a grammar school which ranks by score will need to gather additional information thereby posing risk of lack of equity in the system. 2) Parents who wish to apply to a grammar that ranks within Kent who live outside Kent will experience further disadvantage as they do not always receive score information from their school. 3) To restrict information on students PESE scores means that Kent is not in line with other bordering local authority who do provide scores (Bromley/Medway). 4) A clear rationale for restricting this information on educational or administrative grounds has not been provided. The practice appears to be operating against the interests of openness and transparency for some parents and grammar schools and without sound justification for this I strongly urge that scores be provided to parents at the time they are informed of the test result

Folkestone School for Girls – Want to be included in Dover Test

Homewood School- want parents to have 1 preference

Mascalls School & St Anselms Catholic School - wish to abolish testing

Tonbridge Grammar School - want to know when test scores will be available

Schools who in principal disagreed to September testing but agreed to the Scheme

Angley School

1. Too early to assess potential
2. Appeals will be taking place while SCAF choices made

Aylesford School

1. January testing for child to develop

Cornwallis Academy

1. Parent can make an informed choice

Hillview School for Girls

1. Raises stress level for pupils
2. Do not raise the preference to 4 as parents struggle naming 3 schools

The Malling School

1. Abolish 11+

The Wildernesse School

1. Pupils not developed.
2. Demotivation following 11+ results leading to poorer KS2 results.
3. Move preparation for test to year 5

2.2 Consultation on oversubscription criteria

122 schools responded

7 Secondary schools disagreed: Folkestone School for Girls' (F), Marsh Academy, Ursuline College (VA), St Edmund's Catholic School (VA), Wildernesse School (F) The North School (LA), Northfleet College (F). 4 primary schools disagreed the oversubscription criteria: Culverstone Green Primary School (LA), Kemsing Primary School (LA), St Gregory's CEP School (VA) & St Phillip Howard Catholic Primary School (VA). 3 VA/F Secondary School were undecided: Chatham House Grammar School, Sir Roger Manwoods School, and Leigh Technology Academy.

General Comments

Current Family Association	1 comment
	<p>Northfleet College for Boys disagreed the oversubscription criteria and commented under current family association we still wish to give preference to boys whose sister(s) attend Northfleet School for Girls</p> <p>Culverstone Green Primary School disagreed stating grammar schools should not have sibling links.</p>
Selection Testing	comments

Bennett Memorial Diocesan School VA agreed the oversubscription criteria and commented these criteria look fine, although I cannot see reference to selection here - there are a number of community selective schools - it is not clear to me that these criteria will actually be used in this form for them.

Canterbury High School agrees to the oversubscription criteria and commented dislikes schools having their own admission test.

St Peter CE Primary School VA agree and comment non-selective schools that discount applications made by children who have sat or are sitting the 11+ should not be allowed to as this is an unfair curtailment of parental choice. Non-selective schools who refuse children who sit the 11+ should be stopped from doing so as it is discriminatory.

Folkestone School for Girls disagreed the oversubscription comment they would like to be included in the Dover test dual testing arrangements, we consider that our pupils are disadvantaged as they only have a single testing system.

St Edmunds catholic School disagreed to the oversubscription criteria stating Astor College have adopted 'up to 10% on aptitude in the Visual Arts' Given the huge percentage of students going to selective schools in Dover is this not a further method of selection.

The Marsh Academy disagreed the oversubscription criteria on the basis Dover Girls should not be allowed a dual entry process – unless all grammar schools follow this.

Denominational Preference	2 comments
<p>St Gregory’s CEP School disagreed the oversubscription criteria on the basis that religious aspects must be part of the over-subscription data</p> <p>St Phillip Howard Catholic Primary School disagreed the policy stating church schools need to have church attendance as a criteria. <i>The LA has no voluntary controlled secondary schools.</i></p>	
Reintroduce First Preference First	1 comment
<p>Ursuline College disagreed with the oversubscription criteria stating in the light of proposed changes we would propose reintroducing first preference first. In the last year that this formed part of the entire process we among many schools had the smoothest possible admissions process with the lowest number ever of unhappy parents. This issue must be revisited. <i>First preference first is now illegal and therefore cannot be reintroduced.</i></p>	
Nearness of a child’s Home to School	4 comments

Thamesview School (F) agree to the oversubscription criteria however is concerned over residences that are some distance from any school. If proximity is the criterion, could children from these areas be disadvantaged? Linked to this would be the relationship with any bordering LAs - East Sussex, Surrey, Medway & London Boroughs.

The North School disagreed to the oversubscription criteria stating students for whom a particular school is their nearest and easiest to get to should have preference over a student living nearer who also lives much closer to another suitable and appropriate school. It makes no sense to make a student travel past a school to get to another when there are students deprived of a place for whom a school is their nearest. If we are promoting sustainability then the county should also adopt a similar stance. Also why can Astor College select 10% for Arts if another specialist colleges cannot. This is not an equal opportunity policy and either all specialist schools should be allowed to select 10% or none.

Ulcombe Primary School (LA) agreed to the oversubscription criteria and raised concerns with schools outside of Community and VC schools and their oversubscription criteria. Which, in theory, could see a child from Dover being given a place in a Maidstone school to the detriment of children in Maidstone and the surrounding area.

Kemsing Primary School (LA) disagreed to the oversubscription criteria stating using distance as a criteria is disadvantageous to our pupils in Kemsing. Schools such as Weald of Kent Grammar give priority to Sevenoaks primary schools over those in Tunbridge Wells. Weald is our nearest girls' grammar school even though we are further away than Tunbridge Wells. Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys is our nearest grammar (that does not select again like Judd) and yet last year 3 of our pupils who had passed the selection tests only obtained a place on appeal. This situation must be addressed for the future.

Other comments	1 comment
<p>Wildernesse School disagrees the oversubscription criteria stating Para 21 point 3 - it is not clear how the LAs would define the 'appropriateness' of a school. Para 23 point 4 - it is clear that this system does not currently operate fairly, transparently or in accordance with the current scheme. There is little confidence that the proposal would do so either. Para 23, last line - there is no apparent justification for not informing parents of available places.</p>	

2.3 Consultation on Relevant Consultation Area

122 Secondary Schools responded

7 Secondary Schools disagreed with the relevant consultation area: Barton Court Grammar School (F) Herne Bay High School (F), Hayesbrook School (F), Mascalls School (F) Minster College (F), Sandwich Technology College (F), Wildernesse School (F). 5 Primary Schools disagreed: Herne Bay Junior School (VA), Reculver Primary School (LA), Anthony Roper Primary School (LA) Salmestone Primary School, Willesborough Junior School.

The following schools did not specify an opinion: Canterbury High School, Chatham House Grammar School, Leigh Technology Academy, Willesborough Junior School.

Individual Consultation Areas	10
<p>Mascalls School disagreed on the basis Paddock Wood should be included in Tonbridge and Malling and specifically mentioned in Tunbridge Wells and Cransbrook.</p> <p>Northfleet School for Girls (LA) agreed to the consultation but questioned where Southfleet & Bean figured.</p> <p>Thamesview School agrees and questioned how will bordering LAs be kept informed and will protocols be established?</p> <p>Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Girls agreed however stated with Maidstone Grammar school proposing a move to 'super selection' I would like Kings Hill and West Malling to be included in the T/Wells consultation area.</p> <p>Chilham St Mary's CE Primary School (LA) agree and commented that Chilham is within Canterbury although we are Ashford 1 Cluster and all our transition work is within this cluster.</p> <p>Anthony Roper Primary School disagreed and comments the school sends children to Dartford, Sevenoaks and Tonbridge.</p> <p>Herne Bay High School, Herne Bay Junior School and Reculver Primary School felt they could not agree stating Herne Bay should be included in the Canterbury district as their intake is affected by Canterbury Schools rather than the Thanet schools.</p> <p>Sandwich Technology College disagrees There appears to be no provision for the Deal area and we feel this area should be included on the list.</p>	
Cluster Review	1
<p>Chartham Primary School disagreed as the school felt a Cluster review needed across Kent or schools in cluster should be in Area etc and nearest secondary school. Also needs looking at again – sustainability.</p>	
No comments	2
<p>Minster College disagreed to the relevant consultation area no comment received.</p> <p>The Wildernesse School disagrees - no comment</p> <p>Salmestone Primary School disagreed – no comment</p>	

2.4 Consultation on Published Admission Numbers

122 Schools responded.

The following schools disagreed to the published admission number presented in the consultation: Bennett Memorial Diocesan School (VA), Wildernesse School (F), The Abbey School (LA)

The following schools did not specify an opinion: Sir Roger Manwoods School (F) Leigh Technology Academy (ACAD), Northfleet College (F), Willesborough Junior School (F)

Foundation and VA Schools PAN	1 Commnet
<p>Thamesview School (F) Gravesend agree the PAN and commented it would be useful if Foundation Schools were added so a complete picture of provision could be established.</p>	
Previous Year PANs	1 Comment

Bennett Memorial Diocesan School I cannot agree to these without seeing a comparison in tabular form with PANs for the same schools in previous years. Changes are not highlighted and it is therefore not possible to agree them.	
Selective School PAN	1 Comment
The Wildernesse School disagreed with the PANs and commented in the area directly affecting this school, 13 selective schools admitted a total of 166 pupils who had not passed the selective tests in 2007. In 8 cases it was these pupils that allowed the schools to reach their PAN. Until this unfairness is removed this school is unable to agree to any amendments to the current scheme.	
Reduction In PAN	5 Comments
<p>The Abbey School disagrees with the PANs and comments the school has not been near 235 for years but agree assuming that if there is a falling roll situation the Grammar Schools should have their PAN reduced to stop the Grammar's filling up later with borderline students which impacts upon high School results that are keen to improve! In school variation project – Ask.</p> <p>Meopham School There should be strategic reductions of PANs in areas as we have agreed in Gravesham in order to deal effectively with falling rolls in Kent. Too much is left to chance.</p> <p>St Edmunds Catholic School agrees and comments Astor College for the Arts we note again the gross unfairness of the use of the 'Dover Test' by the Grammar schools - particularly in the context of falling roles in the area - to top up to their PAN. The ability profile of the High School students will be further reduced as a result. There is the potential for failing High Schools in Dover.</p> <p>St Thomas Catholic Primary School agree and comment the school questions the PAN for Tunbridge Wells Boys Grammar School versus Tunbridge Wells High Schools given the proportions of the population they allege to serve.</p> <p>St Peter's CE Primary School agrees and comments yes because I have to supply an answer but have no idea why they are calculated thus.</p>	
General Comments on PAN	1
Northfleet School for Girls agree however we will keep this under review	

Other General Comments on Consultation 2009

Bennett Memorial Diocesan School - There is nowhere else to record the following point, so it is placed here: you ask in the document for views on the number of choices on the SCAF, but there does not appear to be a place for recording the views here you ask for. That seems unfortunate to say the least. For the record, I am NOT in favour of increasing the number of schools chosen. Three is adequate in my view.

St Edmund's Catholic School comments you haven't asked, but I don't agree with going to four preferences. The only changes will be increased administration at the school and more appeals because parents getting the third choice at present do not really want the school they put down but merely try to fill up the form. A fourth choice would be similar.

St Peter Methodist Primary School General Comment re consultation: The timing of this consultation leads me to believe that the above decision has already been made and that our views will sadly not effect the outcome.

Proposed Arrangements for determination - including the Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme for Secondary Education in Kent, the Oversubscription Criteria for Community & Voluntary Controlled Secondary Schools in Kent, the Statutory Consultation Area, and the published admission numbers for Community and VC Secondary Schools in Kent in 2009.

The key scheme dates are:

Key Action	Key Dates in Scheme
Registration for Testing opens	2 June 2008
Closing date for Registration	11 July 2008
Test Date	18/19 September 2008
Assessment Decision sent to Parents	20 th October 2008
SCAF Closing Date	14 November 2008
First Data Exchange with Neighbouring Authorities	5 December 2008
Applicant Numbers to schools (including info for those needing to arrange additional testing)	12 December 2008
Applicant details sent to schools to apply oversubscription criteria	5 January 2009
Ranked Lists returned to LA by all schools	30 January 2009
Secondary schools sent lists of allocated pupils - primary schools informed of destination of their pupils	20 February 2009
National Offer Day	2 March 2009
Date by which places should be accepted or declined	26 March 2009
Coordinated Scheme ends	31 March 2009

1. PROPOSED CO-ORDINATED SCHEME FOR DETERMINATION

Glossary of terms used in the Scheme

1. In this scheme –

“the LA” means Kent County Council acting in their capacity as local authority;

“the LA area” means the area in respect of which the LA is the local authority;

“primary education” has the same meaning as in section 2(1) of the Education Act 1996;

“secondary education” has the same meaning as in section 2(2) of the Education Act 1996;

“primary school” has the same meaning as in section 5(1) of the Education Act 1996;

“secondary school” has the same meaning as in section 5(2) of the Education Act 1996;

“school” means a community, foundation or voluntary school (but not a special school) which is maintained by the LA, and Academies

“foundation schools” means such of the schools as are foundation schools;

“VA schools” means such of the schools as are voluntary-aided schools;

"Academies" means such schools as are defined by section 482 of the Education Act 1996 (as amended by section 65 of the Education Act 2002);

“admission authority” in relation to a community or voluntary controlled school means the LA and, in relation to a foundation or VA school and Academy, means the governing body of that school;

“the specified year” means the school year beginning at or about the beginning of September 2009, and at the same time in any successive year in which this scheme is still in force;

“admission arrangements” means the arrangements for a particular school or schools which govern the procedures and decision making for the purposes of admitting pupils to the school;

“casual admission” means any application for a place in the first year of secondary education that is received after 31 March 2009, including those received during the academic year commencing in September 2009 (and in the September of any successive years in which this scheme is in force), and applications for a place in any other year group received at any time from the commencement of the scheme.

“eligible for a place” means that a child has been placed on a school’s ranked list at such a point as falls within the school’s published admission number.

SCAF – refers to the Secondary Common Application Form

2. Subject to paragraph 3, the scheme shall apply to every maintained secondary school in the LA area (except special schools), including Academies, and shall take effect immediately.

3 In any years subsequent to 2009, any or all of the dates specified in this scheme (including those set out in Schedule 2) may be changed to take account of any bank holidays and weekends that may fall on the specified dates.

THE SCHEME

The LA expects that all schools and Admissions Authorities engaged in the sharing of admissions data will manage personal information in accordance with the Data Protection principles.

Secondary Common Application Form

1. There will be a standard form for Kent residents known as the Secondary Common Application Form (SCAF).
2. The SCAF will be used for the purpose of admitting pupils into the first year of secondary education in the specified year, and any successive year in which this scheme is still in force.
3. The SCAF must be used as a means of expressing one or more preferences for the purposes of section 86 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, by parents resident in the LA area wishing to express a preference for their child:
 - (a) to be admitted to a school within the LA area (including VA and Foundation schools and Academies)
 - (b) to be admitted to a school located in another LA's area (including VA, foundation schools and Academies)
4. The SCAF will:
 - (a) invite the parent to express **four** preferences by completing the form, including, where relevant, any schools outside the LA's area, in rank order of preference.
 - (b) invite parents to give their reasons for each preference.
 - (c) explain that the parent will receive no more than one offer of a school place and that:
 - (i) a place will be offered at the highest ranking nominated school for which they are eligible for a place; and
 - (ii) if a place cannot be offered at a nominated school, a place will be offered at an alternative school.
 - (d) specify the closing date and where it must be returned, in accordance with paragraph 7.
5. The LA will make appropriate arrangements to ensure:
 - (a) that the SCAF is available on request from the LA and from all maintained primary and secondary schools and Academies in the LA area; and
 - (b) that the SCAF is accompanied by a written explanation of the co-ordinated admissions scheme.
6. The LA will take all reasonable steps to ensure that every parent resident in the LA area who has a child in their last year of primary education receives a copy of the SCAF (and a written explanation).

7 Completed SCAFs are to be returned to the LA by 14 November 2008 via primary schools (if the child is attending a Kent maintained primary school), so that the LA can keep track of parents that do not complete a SCAF. (Primary schools can ask for the on-line reference from parents if they have concerns or enquire with the on-line admissions team to establish if an online application has been received)

Supplementary Information Forms

8. All preferences expressed on a SCAF are valid applications. A school can require parents who wish to nominate, or have nominated it on the SCAF, to provide additional information on a supplementary form only where the additional information is required for the governing body to apply its over-subscription criteria to the application. Where a supplementary form is required it must be returned to the school. All schools that use supplementary forms must include the proposed form in their consultation with other admission authorities, including the LA.

9. A supplementary form is not a valid application: this can be made only on the Kent SCAF or, if the child is resident in another area, the home area's Common Application Form. When supplementary forms are received the school must verify with the LA before consideration and ranking of applicants that a SCAF or neighbouring area's SCAF has been received from the parent and, if not, contact the parent and ask them to complete one. In these circumstances, the school should also send the LA a copy of the supplementary form if so requested. Under the requirements of the scheme, parents will not be under any obligation to complete any part of an individual school's supplementary form where this is not strictly required for the governing body to apply its over-subscription criteria.

Testing

10. From 2 June 2008 Registration for the Kent test will open. Parents wishing their children to sit the Kent test for admission to Kent Schools are required to register with the Kent Admissions Team no later than 11 July 2008.

11. Parents who do not register for the Kent test by the 11 July 2008 will not be entered into the Kent tests taking place for in-County pupils on 18 & 19 September 2008 and out-County pupils 20 September 2008. If the parent chooses to name a Kent grammar school (which uses the Kent Process for Entry to Secondary Education) on the SCAF for a child who has not taken the test, their preference will be treated as invalid and they will not have met the entry criteria. In these circumstances a child will not have an opportunity to sit the Kent test until the scheme closes on 31 March 2009.

12. In exceptional circumstances, where a child is unable to sit the test on the September dates (specifically, due to medical reasons confirmed by a doctor's certificate, or in the event that a child moves into the area after the closing date for test registration) arrangements will be made for a January test date. This can only happen where parents return the late SCAF before the 15 December 2008. Outside of these specific circumstances children failing to register for a test but naming a grammar school will not have an opportunity to sit the test until after 31 March 2009 when parents will need to approach the school they have named directly.

13. The LA will write to parents, advising of the assessment decision on 20 October 2008 following marking and the application of the Headteacher Assessment. Parents will have until 14 November 2008 to return their completed SCAF. There will be no right of appeal concerning a child's assessment, but parents may make an admissions appeal after 2 March 2009 to the independent appeal panel if their child is refused admission to any school.

Late Applications Received After the SCAF Closing Date but Before 15 December 2008

14. The closing date for applications in the normal admissions round is 14 November 2008. As far as is reasonably practicable applications for places in the normal admissions round that are received late for a good reason will be accepted provided they are received before 15 December 2008. Examples of what will be considered as good reason include: when a single parent has been ill for some time, or has been dealing with the death of a close relative; a family has just moved into the area or is returning from abroad (proof of ownership or tenancy of a Kent property will normally be required in these cases).

15. Exceptional provision is made for the families of Service Personnel and Crown Servants, as recommended in the School Admissions Code. Applications will be accepted up until 15 December 2008, where it is confirmed by the appropriate authority that the family will be resident in Kent by 1 September 2009. A confirmed address, or, in the absence of this, a Unit address, will be accepted as the home address from which home-school distance will be calculated. Children who are not successful in gaining any place they want will be allocated an available place at the nearest school of an appropriate type to their given address, and will have the same access to a waiting list / rights to appeal as other applicants.

Late Applications Received After 15 December 2008 but Before 26 March 2009

16. Applications made direct to any school on the SCAF must be forwarded to the LA immediately. Where only the supplementary form is received the school must inform the LA immediately so it can verify whether a SCAF has been received from the parent and, if not, contact the parent and ask them to complete a SCAF. The LA will hold late applications until they are passed to schools on 27 March 2009.

Determining Offers in Response to the SCAF

17. The LA will act as a clearing house for the allocation of places by the relevant admission authorities in response to the SCAFs. The LA will only make any decision with respect to the offer or refusal of a place in response to any preference expressed on the SCAF where:

- (a) it is acting in its separate capacity as an admission authority, or
- (b) an applicant is eligible for a place at more than one school, or
- (c) an applicant is not eligible for a place at any school that the parent has nominated.

The LA will allocate places in accordance with the provisions set out in paragraph 20 of this Schedule.

18. By 12 December 2008 the LA will notify all schools of the number of applications received for their school. Schools that have not made arrangements to test earlier and requiring details to arrange testing will be sent parent and pupil details. Schools requesting details to match against supplementary forms will be sent parent and pupil details. Where parents have nominated a school outside the LA area, the LA will also notify the relevant authority/authorities by this date.

19. By 5 January 2009 the LA will notify the admission authority for each of the schools of every nomination that has been made for that school, forwarding them all relevant details from the SCAF.

20. By 30 January 2009 the admission authority for each school will consider all

applications for their school, apply the school's over-subscription criteria (if appropriate) and provide the LA with a list of those applicants ranked according to the school's over-subscription criteria.

21. By 18 February 2009 the LA will match this ranked list against the ranked lists of the other schools nominated and:

- Where the child is eligible for a place at only one of the nominated schools, that school will be allocated to the child.
- Where the child is eligible for a place at two or more of the nominated schools, they will be allocated a place at whichever of these is the highest ranked preference.
- Where a Kent child is not eligible for a place at any of the nominated schools, the LA will allocate them a place at the nearest appropriate school with a vacancy.

22. By 20 February 2009 – The LA informs its secondary schools and Academies, of the pupils to be offered places at their schools, and informs other LA's of places in Kent schools to be offered to their residents. The LA informs all Kent primary schools of the destination of their pupils.

Offers - 2 March 2009

23. On 2 March 2009 Kent LA will notify applicants from within Kent by letter that they are being offered a place at the allocated school. This letter will give the following information:

- The name of the school at which a place is offered;
- The reasons why the child is not being offered a place at each of the other schools nominated on the SCAF;
- Information about the statutory right of appeal against the decisions to refuse places at the other nominated schools;
- How to apply for a place on the waiting list for any school named on the SCAF. Parents cannot ask for their child to go on the waiting list for a grammar school unless the child has been assessed suitable for grammar school.
- Contact details for the school and LA for the admission authorities of Foundation, VA schools and Academies where they were not offered a place, so that they can lodge an appeal with the governing body.

The letter will not inform parents of places still available at other schools.

24. Parents who reside in other LA's but who have applied for a Kent school or schools, will be notified of whether or not they are being offered a place at a Kent school by their own LA on 2 March 2009.

25. Kent pupils who have not been offered a place at any of the schools nominated on their Secondary Common Application Form will be offered a place by Kent LA at the nearest school with a place available, following consultation with individual schools. This place will be offered on, or as close as possible to, **2 March 2009**

26. Secondary schools send their welcome letters on Thursday 5 March 2009.

Acceptance/Refusal 26 March 2009

27. 26 March 2009: the deadline for parents to let the school they have been offered know in writing whether or not they are accepting the place. Parents must let the school know if they are not taking up the place offered. By 26 March 2009 each school will make sure they have a response from each pupil who was offered a place on 2 March 2009. If the school is unable to obtain a reply by 26 March 2009, having exhausted all reasonable enquiries, it **must** remind the parent of the need to respond and point out that the place may be withdrawn if no response is received. Only after this may it be assumed that a place is not required.

28. 27 March 2009: the deadline for schools to let the LA know of any pupils not taking up the place offered in order to maintain the pupil database.

29. 27 March 2009: the LA will send all schools details of any late applications received after 15 December 2008 but before 26 March 2009. Schools will incorporate these applicants into their rank order taking account of their oversubscription criteria before offering any vacancies on 30 March 2009. If they cannot offer a late applicant a place, they must write to the parents confirming this and explaining how they can exercise their right to appeal against the refusal of a place.

30. **31 March 2009**: the co-ordinated scheme ends.

Applications to Schools after 31 March 2009

31. The admission authority for each oversubscribed school will keep a waiting list. This will include details of all applicants who have named the school on the SCAF and were not offered a place on 2 March and have asked to be included on the school's waiting list, any late application sent to the school by the LA on 27 March 2009 and any application made direct to the school after 31 March 2009. Applicants will be listed in order of priority, in accordance with the school's over-subscription criteria. Schools with vacancies against their Published Admission Number will initially offer places on a common date of 30 March 2009, and then as vacancies arise. If a school has reached its Published Admission Number it may not admit applicants other than through the Independent Appeal process, the In Year Fair Access Protocol or where special arrangements relating to children in Local Authority care apply. To maintain the database, admission authorities will advise the LA when a place is offered to a pupil on a waiting list, and whether the parent has accepted or declined the offer. Waiting lists will be maintained until the new Year 7 intake has been admitted in September. Parents who are refused admission must be offered a right of appeal (even if their child's name has been put on the waiting list) and must be given a contact in the LA to ensure that no pupil is left without a place.

Appeals

32. All parents have the statutory right to appeal against any decision refusing them a school place, regardless of where they ranked the school on a SCAF.

33. Where a school has places available after 27 March 2009, and parents have lodged an appeal against the refusal of a place, they may be offered a place at the school after 27 March

without the appeal being heard, provided - where the school is a grammar school – that the child has been assessed as being suitable for a grammar school place and that there are no other applicants at that time on the school’s waiting list who rank higher through the application of the school’s over-subscription criteria.

Applications for Places in Year Groups Other Than the Normal Year of Entry to Secondary School (Casual Admissions).

34. Application can be made direct to any Kent school or via the LA.

- Kent LA will determine any application for a community or controlled school for which it is the admission authority; and
- If the application is for a Foundation or Voluntary Aided school or Academy, the governing body of the school will make a determination and notify the parent.
- Parents who are refused admission must be offered a right of appeal.

35. The LA will keep track of any pupils who apply for casual admission, and intervene as appropriate to ensure that they are placed in a school without undue delay, where necessary employing the “In Year Fair Access Protocol”.

Admissions Authorities within Kent required to adhere to the co-ordinated scheme

36. The table overleaf outlines the admissions authorities within Kent required to agree the co-ordinated scheme that have been consulted for admission arrangements for 2009. The list does not include other bodies consulted and given an opportunity to express a view. (These include the Diocesans and neighbouring Local Authorities).

Angley School - A Sports College	Gravesend Grammar School for Girls,	Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys
Archbishop's School, The	Hayesbrook School, The	Sir Roger Manwood's School
Ashford Christ Church School	Herne Bay High School	Skinner's School, The
Aylesford Sports College	Hillview School for Girls	Southlands Community Comprehensive School
Barton Court Grammar School	Homewood School and Sixth Form Centre	Spires Academy
Bennett Memorial Diocesan School	Hugh Christie Technology College	St Anselm's Catholic School, Canterbury
Bradbourne School, The	Judd School, The	St Edmund's Catholic School, Dover
Brockhill Park Performing Arts College	Leigh Technology Academy	St George's CE Foundation School
Canterbury High School, The	Malling School, The	St Gregory's Catholic Comprehensive School
Charles Dickens School, The	Maplesden Noakes School, The	St John's Catholic Comprehensive School
Chatham House Grammar School	Marlowe Academy	St Simon Stock Catholic School, Maidstone
Chaucer Technology School	Marsh Academy	Thamesview School
Cornwallis Academy	Mascalls School	Tonbridge Grammar School
Cranbrook School	Meopham School	Tunbridge Wells Girls' Grammar School
Dane Court Grammar School	Minster College	Ursuline College, Westgate on Sea
Dartford Grammar School	New Line Learning Academy Oldborough	Weald of Kent Grammar School
Dartford Grammar School for Girls	New Line Learning Academy Senacre	Westlands
Dover Grammar School for Boys	Northfleet Technology College	Wilderness School, The
Folkestone Academy	Pent Valley Technology College	Wilmington Grammar School for Boys
Folkestone School for Girls, The	Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School	Grammar School for Girls Wilmington, The
Fulston Manor School	Saint George's CE School	Wrotham School
Gravesend Grammar School	Sandwich Technology School	

2. OVERSUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA

The LA, as admission authority for Community and Voluntary Controlled schools, is required to consult annually on the proposed oversubscription criteria for these schools. In 2009 we do not propose any major change to the oversubscription criteria for Community and Voluntary Controlled secondary schools.

Following the Schools Adjudicator's decision in 2007 that Dover Grammar School for Boys should be able to continue to use a dual testing arrangement to determine eligibility for admission in 2008 (the "Dover test" as well as Kent's PESE), provision was made for the same arrangements to apply to the Dover Grammar School for Girls. As the arrangements for admission to the boys' grammar school for 2009 may not be challenged by the LA, it is proposed that, for Dover Grammar School for Girls, the oversubscription criteria listed below should be preceded in 2009, as this year, by the statement: "Entry is through the Kent age 11 assessment procedure or the Dover test."

The oversubscription criteria for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools should be:

- Children in Local Authority Care –a child under the age of 18 years for whom the Local Authority provides accommodation by agreement with their parents/carers (Section 20 of the Children Act 1989) or who is the subject of a care order under Part IV of the Act.
- Current Family Association - a brother or sister in the same school at the time of entry. In this context brother or sister means children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters.
- Health and Special Access Reasons - children whose health or physical impairment means they have to attend a particular school. Health reasons must be strong and must be supported with evidence in writing by a medical practitioner. The evidence must demonstrate a special connection between the child's needs and the particular school. A physical impairment must be such that it requires the child to attend the particular school because its buildings do not inhibit his/her mobility.
- Residence within a particular scheme of education.
- Nearness of children's homes to school. We use the distance between the child's permanent address and the school, measured in a straight line using Ordnance Survey address point data. Distances are measured from a defined point within the child's home to a defined point within the school as specified by Ordnance Survey

(Where new build housing development requires a new school or the significant enlargement of an existing school the 'Nearness' criterion will allow for a catchment area (defined by a map) to be created for the relevant school. This must be included in the Statutory Public Notice and admissions determination and will be valid for a period not exceeding three rounds of admissions).

The oversubscription criteria for Astor College for the Arts should be:

- Children in Local Authority Care –a child under the age of 18 years for whom the Local Authority provides accommodation by agreement with their parents/carers (Section 20 of the Children Act 1989) or who is the subject of a care order under Part IV of the Act.
- Current Family Association - a brother or sister in the same school at the time of entry. In this context brother or sister means children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters.

- Health and Special Access Reasons - children whose health or physical impairment means they have to attend a particular school. Health reasons must be strong and must be supported with evidence in writing by a medical practitioner. The evidence must demonstrate a special connection between the child's needs and the particular school. A physical impairment must be such that it requires the child to attend the particular school because its buildings do not inhibit his/her mobility.
- Residence within a particular scheme of education.
- Nearness of children's homes to school. We use the distance between the child's permanent address and the school, measured in a straight line using Ordnance Survey address point data. Distances are measured from a defined point within the child's home to a defined point within the school as specified by Ordnance Survey.
- Up to 10% of places will be admitted on ability in the visual arts. Please note that children applying for these places will need to spend a session at the college working on a set of creative tasks which will be assessed on merit.

3. RELEVANT STATUTORY CONSULTATION AREA

The LA is required to define “relevant areas” within which the admissions authorities of all maintained schools must conduct their annual statutory consultation. Admission authorities for all maintained secondary schools within the relevant area must consult the admission authorities for all maintained primary, middle and secondary schools in the area. An academy must consult annually in the way that other admission authorities do, but cannot alter its admission arrangements without the approval of the Secretary of State.

We propose that the relevant statutory consultation areas continue to be the designated districts and adjoining parishes detailed below.

Thanet	Thanet District plus Herne Bay, Chislet, Preston, Ash, Sandwich and Worth parishes.
Dover	Dover District plus Folkestone, Hawkinge, Swingfield, Elham, Barham, Adisham Wickhambreaux, Chislet, Monkton, Minster, Ramsgate.
Canterbury	Canterbury City plus St Nicholas at Wade, Preston, Ash, Wingham, Goodnestone, Aylesham, Nonington, Sheperdswell with Coldred, Lydden, Elham, Stelling Minnis, Stowting, Elmsted, Chilham, Dunkirk, Boughton under Blean, Selling, Sheldwich, Hernhill, Graveney with Goodnestone, Faversham, Ospringe, Luddenham.
Swale	Swale Borough plus St Cosmas and St Damian in the Blean, Whitstable.
Shepway	Shepway District plus Capel-le-Ferne, Lydden, Barham, Bradbourne, Smeeth, Aldington, Orlestone.
Ashford	Ashford Borough plus Brenzett, Lympne, Sellindge, Stowting, Elmsted, Petham, Chartham, Dunkirk, Selling, Sheldwich, Lenham, Headcorn, Frittenden, Cranbrook, Benenden, Sandhurst.
Maidstone	Maidstone Borough plus Hartlip, Newington, Borden, Bredgar, Doddington, Milsted, Kingsdown, Eastling, Charing, Egerton, Smarden, Biddenden, Frittenden, Cranbrook, Goudhurst, Horsmonden, Capel, Wateringbury, Paddock Wood, East Peckham, East Malling, Larkfield, Ditton, Aylesford, Burham, Wouldham, Snodland, Leybourne, Ryarsh, Kings Hill, West Malling, Trottiscliffe, Offham, Mereworth, Platt, Plaxtol, Borough Green, Ightham, Wrotham, Stansted.
Gravesham	Gravesham Borough plus Dartford Borough, Snodland, Ryarsh, Trottiscliffe, Stansted, Ash-cum-Ridley, Hartley, Fawkham, West Kingsdown, Horton Kirby, Farningham, Eynsford, Swanley, Crockenhill.
Dartford	Dartford Borough plus Ash-cum-Ridley, Hartley, West Kingsdown, Fawkham, Eynsford Swanley, Crockenhill.
Sevenoaks	Sevenoaks District plus Dartford Borough, Stansted, Wrotham, Ightham, Southborough, Borough Green, Tunbridge Wells, Plaxtol, Pembury, Shipbourne, Speldhurst.
Tonbridge	Tonbridge and Malling Borough plus Sevenoaks District (excluding Swanley, Farningham, Horton Kirby, Fawkham and Hartley), Tunbridge Wells Borough, Yalding.
Malling	Tonbridge and Malling Borough plus, Boxley, Maidstone, Barming, Meopham, Ash-cum-Ridley, West Kingsdown, Kemsing.
Tunbridge Wells	Tunbridge Wells plus Sevenoaks District (excluding Swanley, Farningham, Horton Kirby, Fawkham and Hartley), Tonbridge, Hildenborough, Hadlow, East Peckham, Shipbourne, Ightham, Plaxtol, Borough Green, Mereworth, Wateringbury, Yalding.
Cranbrook	Tunbridge Wells plus Marden, Staplehurst, Headcorn, Biddenden, Tenterden, Rolvenden.

4. PUBLISHED ADMISSION NUMBERS.

We propose the published admission numbers for Community and Voluntary Controlled secondary schools for 2009/10 should be as detailed below.

Community & VA Schools - All Areas

SCHOOLS	2009 PAN
The Abbey School	235
Archers Court School	180
Astor College for the Arts	240
The Astor of Hever Community School	150
Axton Chase School	180
Borden Grammar School	120
Castle Community School	120
Clarendon House Grammar School	115
The Community College , Whitstable	210
Dartford Technology College	145
Dover Grammar School for Girls	120
Ellington School for Girls	120
The Harvey Grammar School	150
Hartsdown Technology College	210
The Hereson School	120
Hextable School	150
Highsted Grammar School	120
Highworth Grammar School for Girls	174
Holmesdale Technology College	180
Invicta Grammar School	175
King Ethelbert School	150
Maidstone Grammar School for Girls	175
The North School	200
The Norton Knatchbull School	149
Northfleet School for Girls	175
Oakwood Park Grammar School	145
Simon Langton Girls Grammar School	155
The Sittingbourne Community College	210
Swadelands School	180
Swan Valley Community School	150
Swanley Technology College	120
Towers School	243
Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys	180
Tunbridge Wells High School	150
Valley Park Community School	180
Wilmington Enterprise College	150
Walmer School	143

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PROPOSED ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRIMARY 2009/10**THE CO-ORDINATED SCHEME - ADMISSION TO PRIMARY SCHOOL 2009****Timetable of Co-ordinated Scheme for Primary Admissions 2009**

19 January 2009	Closure date for return of Common Application Forms.
By 13 February 2009	Details of all applicants sent to schools and other LAs.
By 6 March 2009	Ranked lists back from all schools.
By 19 March 2009	The LEA will match ranked lists.
By 26 March 2009	Schools informed of allocations.
31 March 2009	Offer day.
24 April 2009	Deadline for parents to accept the place offered.
29 April 2009	Schools re-allocate places that have become available.

In addition the scheme:

- Allows for supplementary forms to be sent direct to primary schools.
- Confirms that after 29 April 2009 school's consider applicants through normal waiting list procedures.

1. Scheme to Co-ordinate Admissions to Primary Schools in September 2009

The LA expects that all schools and Admissions Authorities engaged in the sharing of admissions data will manage personal information in accordance with the Data Protection principles.

1. There will be a standard form known as the Reception Common Application Form (RCAF).
2. The RCAF will be used for the purpose of admitting pupils into the first year of Primary Education and the JCAF for Year 3 of Junior Schools.
3. The RCAF will be used as a means of expressing one or more preferences by parents for their child to be admitted to a school within the LA area (including Voluntary Aided (VA) and Foundation Schools).
4. The RCAF will:
 - (a) Invite parents to express three preferences in priority order,
 - (b) Invite parents to give their reasons for each preference,
 - (c) Explain that parents will receive the offer of one school place and that:

- (i) a place will be offered at highest ranked preference for which they are eligible,
 - (ii) if a place cannot be offered at a school named on the form, a place will be offered at an alternative school.
- (d) Specify the closing date and where it must be returned, in accordance with paragraph 9.
5. The LA will make appropriate arrangements to ensure:
- (a) the RCAF is available on request from the LA and from all primary schools in the LA area; and
 - (b) the RCAF is accompanied by a written explanation of the co-ordinated scheme.
6. All preferences expressed on the RCAF are valid applications.
7. The Governing Body of a Foundation or VA School can require parents who name their school on the RCAF to provide additional information on a supplementary form, but only where the additional information is required for the governing body to apply their over-subscription criteria. Where a supplementary form is required it must be returned to the VA or Foundation School that requested its completion.
8. Where a school receives a supplementary form it will not be regarded as a valid application unless the parent has also completed a RCAF, and the school is named.
9. Completed RCAFs are to be returned to the LA or any Kent Primary School by 19 January 2009
10. The LA will act as a clearing house for the allocation of places. The LA will only make any decision about the offer or refusal of a place in response to any preference expressed on the RCAF where:
- (a) it is acting in its separate capacity as an admission authority;
 - (b) an applicant is eligible for a place at more than one school;
 - (c) an applicant is not eligible for a place at any school that the parent has named.
- The LA will allocate places in accordance with paragraph 13.
11. By 13 February 2009 - The LA will notify each school of every application that has been made including all the relevant details from the RCAF.
12. By 6 March 2009 - The Admission Authority for each school will consider all applications for their school, apply the school over-subscription criteria and provide the LA with a list of all applicants ranked according to the school's over-subscription criteria.
13. By 19 March 2009 - The LA will match this ranked list against the ranked list of the other schools named on the form and:
- Where the child is eligible for a place at only one of the named schools, that school will be offered.
 - Where the child is eligible for a place at two or more of the named schools, they will be allocated a place at whichever of these is the highest ranked preference.
 - Where the child is not eligible for a place at any of the named schools, the child will be allocated a place at the nearest appropriate school with a vacancy.
14. On 26 March 2009 -The LA will inform primary schools of the pupils to be offered places at their schools.

15. On 31 March 2009 - Parents will be sent decision letters. The letter will give the following information:
 - The name and contact details of the school at which a place is offered.
 - The reasons why the child is not being offered a place at any school named on the RCAF as a higher preference than the school offered.
 - Information about the right of appeal against the decisions to refuse places at other named schools.
 - An invitation to parents to contact primary schools if they want their child to be considered for any places that might become available.
16. 24 April 2009 - The deadline for parents to accept the place offered.
17. 29 April 2009 - Schools re-allocate any places that have become vacant since 31 March 2009, giving priority to applicants according to individual schools' over-subscription criteria.
18. Parents may ask to be kept on a waiting list should places become available after 29 April 2009. The waiting lists will be held by individual primary schools and parents will be told to lodge their request with the school.

Late Applications

19. The closing date for applications in the normal admission round is 19 January 2009. As far as is reasonably practicable applications for places in the normal admissions round that are received late for a good reason will be accepted, provided they are received before 30 January 2009.
20. Applications received after 30 January 2009 will be considered after places have been offered to pupils on 31 March 2009.
21. Applications received after 31 March 2009 will be forwarded to each primary school named on the RCAF to consider along with all other outstanding requests.
22. The table below outlines the admissions authorities within Kent required to agree the co-ordinated scheme that have been consulted for admission arrangements for 2009. The list does not include other bodies consulted and given an opportunity to express a view. (These include the Diocesans and neighbouring Local Authorities.)

CONSULTATION 2008 VA AND FOUNDATION PRIMARY SCHOOLS		
All Souls' CEP School	Hunton CEP School	St John's Catholic Primary School, Gravesend
Allington Primary School	Ide Hill CEP School	St John's CEP School, Maidstone
Bapchild & Tonge CEP School	John Wesley Methodist Primary School	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Aylesham
Beauherne Primary School	Lady Boswell's CEP School (Sevenoaks)	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Broadstairs
Borden CEP School	Leybourne, St Peter & St Paul CEP School	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Northfleet
Borough Green Primary School	More Park RCP School	St Katharine's Knockholt CEP School

Bredgar CEP School	Newington Junior Foundation School	St Laurence in Thanet CEJ School
Brenchley & Matfield CEP School	Our Lady of Hartley Catholic Primary School	St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School
Cartwright & Kelsey CEP School	Our Lady's Catholic Primary School, Dartford	St Mary of Charity CE (Aided) Primary School
Charing CEP School	Park Farm Primary School	St Mary's CEP School, Ashford
Charlton CEP School	Penshurst CEP School	St Mary's Catholic School, Deal
Chevening, St Botolph's CEP School	Platt CEP School	St Mary's CEP School, Folkestone
Colliers Green CEP School	Ramsgate, Holy Trinity CEP School	St Mary's CEP School, Swanley
Deal Parochial CEP School	Roseacre Junior School	St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Whitstable
Diocesan & Payne Smith CEP School	Saltwood CEP School	St Paul's CEJ School
Ditton CEJ School	Sholden CEP School	St Peter-in-Thanet CEJ School
Ditton Infant School	Sissinghurst CEP School	St Peter's Catholic Primary School Sittingbourne
Dover, St Mary's CEP School	Snodland CEP School	St Philip Howard Catholic Primary School
Elham CEP School	Speldhurst CEP School	St Richard's Catholic Primary School, Dover
Fordcombe CEP School	St Anselm's Catholic Primary School, Dartford	St Simon of England RCP School, Ashford
Greatstone Primary School	St Augustine's Catholic Primary School	St Teresa's Catholic Primary School
Halfway Houses Primary School	St Augustine's Catholic Primary School, Hythe	St Thomas' Catholic Primary School, Canterbury
Harcourt Primary School	St Barnabas CEP School	St Thomas' Catholic Primary School, Sevenoaks
Hartlip Endowed CEP School	St Bartholomew's Catholic Primary School	Stella Maris Catholic Primary School
Herne Bay Junior School	St Botolph's CEP School	Sutton-at-Hone CEP School
Herne CEJ School	St Eanswythe's CEP School	Tunstall CEP School
Hever CEP School	St Edward's RCP School, Sheerness	Whitstable & Seasalter Endowed CEJ School
Holy Family RCP School, Maidstone	St Ethelbert's Catholic Primary School, Ramsgate	Willesborough Junior School
Holy Trinity CEP School	St Francis' Catholic School, Maidstone	Wilmington Primary School
Holy Trinity CEP School, Dartford	St Gregory's Catholic Primary School, Margate	Wincheap Foundation Primary School
Horton Kirby CEP School	St James' CEI School	Wittersham CEP School

2. Over-subscription Criteria

The over-subscription criteria for all Community and Voluntary Controlled primary schools are:

- Children in Local Authority Care – a child under the age of 18 years for whom the local authority provides accommodation by agreement with their parents/carers (Section 20 of the Children Act 1989) or who is the subject of a care order under Part IV of the Act.
- Attendance at a linked school – where admission links have been established between the infant and junior school concerned, children attending the infant school are given priority for admission to the junior school. In the same way, children with a sibling in the junior school are given priority for admission to the infant school.
- Denominational preference (for Voluntary Controlled Church schools only) – if a parent has applied for their child to be admitted to a Church of England or Methodist controlled school on denominational grounds by ticking the box on the application form, preference will be given to these over those who have not. Evidence of church membership or attendance is not required.
- Current Family Association - a brother or sister in the same school at the time of entry where the family continue to live at the same address as when the sibling was admitted – or – if they have moved – live within 2 miles of the school, or have moved to a property that is nearer to the school than the previous property as defined by the ‘Nearness’ criterion’ (below). Linked infant and junior schools are considered to be the same school for this criterion. In this context brother or sister means children who live as brother and sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters, foster brothers or sisters.
- Health and Special Access Reasons - children whose health or physical impairment means they have to attend a particular school. Health reasons must be strong and must be supported with evidence in writing by a medical practitioner. The evidence must demonstrate a special connection between the child's needs and the particular school. A physical impairment must be such that it requires the child to attend a particular school because its buildings do not inhibit his/her mobility.
- Nearness of children's homes to school - we use the distance between the child’s permanent home address and the school, measured in a straight line using Ordnance Survey address point data. Distances are measured from a defined point within the child’s home to a defined point within the school as specified by Ordnance Survey.
- Where new build housing development requires a new school or the significant enlargement of an existing school the ‘Nearness’ criterion will allow for a catchment area (defined by a map) to be created for the relevant school. This will be included in the Statutory Public Notice and admissions determination and will be valid for a period not exceeding three rounds of admissions.

3. Statutory Consultation Area

The LA is required to define “relevant areas” within which the admissions authorities of all maintained schools must conduct their annual statutory consultation. The relevant statutory consultation areas are those included within a 3 mile radius of the school.

Appendices

Published Admissions Numbers (PAN) for Community and Voluntary controlled Primary Schools:

Ashford 1	2009 PAN
Aldington Primary School	20
Ashford Oaks Primary School	60
Beaver Green Community Primary School	60
Brabourne CEP School	15
Brook Community Primary School	12
Challock Primary School	20
Chilham, St Mary's CEP School	15
Downs View Infant School	90
East Stour Primary School	60
Kennington CEJ School	90
Lady J Thornhill (Endowed) Primary School	60
Linden Grove Primary School	60
Mersham Primary School	28
Phoenix Community Primary School	30
Smeeth Community Primary School	20
Victoria Road Primary School	30
Willesborough Infant School	120

Ashford Rural	2009 PAN
Bethersden Primary School	20
Egerton CEP School	30
Furley Park Primary School	60
Godinton Primary School	60
Great Chart Primary School	60
Hamstreet Primary School	45
High Halden CEP School	15
John Mayne CEP School	20
Kingsnorth Primary School	60
Pluckley CEP School	17
Rolvenden Primary School	14
Smarden Primary School	15
St Michael's CEP School, Tenterden	30
Tenterden Infants School	70
Tenterden Junior School	75
Woodchurch CEP School	20

Schools in Shepway 1	2009 PAN
Castle Hill Community Primary School	58
Cheriton Primary School	58
Christ Church CEP School	60
Hawkinge Primary School	45
Morehall Primary School	30
Mundella Primary School	30
Sandgate Primary School	60
Seabrook CEP School	15
Selsted CEP School	15
St Martin's CEP School	30
St Peter's CEP School	15
The Churchill School	60

Schools in Shepway Rural	2009 PAN
Bodsham CEP School	10
Brenzett CEP School	20
Brookland CEP School	15
Dymchurch Primary School	45
Hythe Bay CEP School	56
Lydd Primary School	40
Lyminge CEP School	30
Lympne CEP School	30
Palmarsh Primary School	15
Sellindge Primary School	15
St Nicholas CEP School	54
Stelling Minnis CEP School	15
Stowting CEP School	15

Schools in Canterbury Coastal	2009 PAN
Briary Primary School	60
Hampton Primary School	85
Herne Bay Infant School	120
Herne CE Infant School	90
Joy Lane Community Primary School	60
Reculver CEP School	75
St Alphege CE Infant School	60
Swalecliffe Community Primary School	90
Westmeads Community Infant School	60
Whitstable Junior School	90

Schools in Canterbury City and Country	2009 PAN
Adisham CEP School	20
Barham CEP School	30
Blean Primary School	67
Bridge & Patrixbourne CEP School	56
Canterbury, St Peter's Methodist	30
Chartham Primary School	45
Chislet CEP School	10
Hersden Community Primary School	17
Hoath Primary School	8
Kingsmead Primary School	30
Littlebourne CEP School	15
Parkside Community Primary School	30
Petham Primary School	17
Pilgrims Way Primary School	50
St Stephens Infant School	90
St Stephens Junior School	90
Sturry CEP School	60
Wickhambreaux CEP School	15

Schools in Rural Swale	2009 PAN
Boughton-under-Blean Methodist	30
Bysing Wood Primary School	15
Canterbury Road Primary School	30
Davington Primary School	60
Eastling Primary School	15
Ethelbert Road	15
Graveney Primary School	15
Hernhill CE Primary School	30
Lansdowne Primary School	30
Luddenham Primary School	30
Lynsted & Norton Primary School	15
Milstead & Frinsted CE Primary School	10
Murston Infant School	45
Murston Junior School	45
Ospringe Primary School	30
Rodmersham Primary School	10
Selling CE Primary School	20
Sheldwich Primary School	30
South Avenue Infant School	60
South Avenue Junior School	60
Teynham Parochial CEP School	30

Schools in Swale Urban	2009 PAN
Bobbing Village School	30
Eastchurch CEP School	60
Grove Park Community School	60
Holywell Primary School (Upchurch)	30
Iwade Community Primary School	30
Kemsley Primary School	30
Lower Halstow School	20
Milton Court Primary School	30
Minster in Sheppey Primary School	60
Minterne Community Junior School	90
Newington C E Primary School	30
Queenborough First School	45
Regis Manor Community School	60
Richmond First School	60
Rose Street School	30
The Oaks Community Infant School	90
West Minster Primary School	60
Woodgrove School	60

Schools in Cranbrook and Paddock Wood	2009 PAN
Benenden CEP School	25
Cranbrook CEP School	30
Frittenden CEP School	15
Goudhurst & Kilndown CEP	30
Hawkhurst CEP School	30
Horsmonden Primary School	30
Lamberhurst St Mary's CEP	20
Paddock Wood Primary School	90
Sandhurst Primary School	25

Schools in Swanley & District	2009 PAN
Crockenhill Primary School	30
Downsview Primary School	20
Hextable Primary School	60
High Firs Primary School	30
Horizon School	30
St Paul's CEP School, Swanley	15
West Kingsdown CE Primary School	45

Schools in Tunbridge Wells	2009 PAN
Bidborough CEP School	30
Bishops Down Primary School	28
Broadwater Primary School	30
Claremont Primary School	60
Langton Green Primary School	30
Pembury School	60
Sherwood Park Community Primary	60
Southborough CEP School	55
St James' CEJ School	68
St John's CEP School	90
St Marks CEP School	30
St Matthew's High Brooms CEP School	60
St Peter's CEP School	20

Schools in Sevenoaks South	2009 PAN
Amherst School	90
Chiddingstone CEP School	20
Churchill CEP School	40
Crockham Hill CEP School	20
Dunton Green Primary School	30
Edenbridge Primary School	60
Four Elms Primary School	16
Halstead Community Primary School	20
Kemsing Primary School	30
Leigh Primary School	20
Otford Primary School	50
Riverhead Infant School	90
Seal CEP School	25
Sevenoaks Primary School	60
Shoreham Village School	15
St John's CEP School, Sevenoaks	15
St Lawrence CEP School	10
Sundridge & Brasted CEP School	15
The Anthony Roper School	45
Weald Community Primary School.	20

Schools in Dartford West	2009 PAN
Fleetdown Infant School	60
Fleetdown Junior School	60
Joydens Wood Infants School	70
Joydens Wood Junior School	70
Maypole Primary School	30
Oakfield Community Primary School	60
St Alban's Infant School	60
Temple Hill Community School	60
The Brent Primary School	60
The Gateway Community Primary	30
Wentworth Primary School	70
West Hill Primary School	70
Westgate Primary School	30
York Road Junior School & Language Unit	90

Schools in Dartford East	2009 PAN
Bean Primary School	30
Darenth Community Primary School	30
Fawkham CEP School	15
Hartley Primary School	60
Knockhall Community Primary	60
Langafel CEP School	45
New Ash Green Primary School	60
Sedley's CEP School	15
Stone, St Mary's CEP School	60
Swanscombe Primary School	60
The Craylands School	30

Schools in Gravesham	2009 PAN
Cecil Road Primary & Nursery	54
Chantry Primary School	30
Cobham Primary School	30
Culverstone Green Primary School	30
Dover Road Community Primary	60
Higham Primary School	30
Istead Rise Primary School	45
Kings Farm Primary School	45
Lawn Primary School	20
Meopham Community Primary	60
Painters Ash Primary School	60
Raynehurst Primary School	45
Riverview Infants School	120
Riverview Junior School	120
Rosherville CEP School	18
Shears Green Infant School	120
Shears Green Junior School	120
Shorne CEP School	30
Singlewell Primary School	30
Vigo Village School	30
Westcourt School	30
Whitehill Primary School	60
Wrotham Road Primary School	60

Schools in Deal and Sandwich	2009 PAN
Eastry CE Primary School	30
Goodnestone CEP School	10
Hornbeam Primary School	45
Kingsdown & Ringwould CEP School	28
Nonington Primary School	12
Preston Primary School	20
Sandown School	60
Sandwich Infant School	56
Sandwich Junior School	60
St Margaret's-at-Cliffe Primary	30
The Downs CEP School	60
Warden House Primary School	60
Wingham Primary School	30
Worth Primary School	10

Schools in Dover	2009 PAN
Aycliffe Community Primary School	20
Aylesham Community Primary	60
Barton Junior School	60
Capel-le-Ferne Primary School	30
Eythorne Elvington Community Primary	20
Green Park Community Primary School	45
Guston CE Primary School	20
Langdon Primary School	10
Lydden Primary School	12
Priory Fields School	60
River Primary School	60
Shatterlocks Infant School	60
Sibertswold CE Primary School	30
St Martin's School	30
Temple Ewell CEP School	20
Vale View Community School	30
White Cliffs Primary College for the Arts	30
Whitfield School	51

Schools in Maidstone 1	2009 PAN
Barming Primary School	60
Boughton Monchelsea Primary School	30
Brunswick House Primary School	60
Coxheath Primary School	30
East Farleigh Primary School	30
Laddingford, St Mary's CEP School	13
Marden Primary School	40
Palace Wood Primary School	60
St Margaret's C of E , Collier Street	17
St Michael's Infant School	40
St Michael's Junior School	45
Staplehurst School	60
Sutton Valence Primary School	30
Wateringbury CEP School	30
West Borough Primary School	60
Yalding, St Peter & St Paul CEP School	20

Schools in Malling	2009 PAN
Aylesford Primary School	45
Brookfield Infant School	60
Brookfield Junior School	64
Burham CEP School	28
The Discovery School	60
Ightham Primary School	28
Kings Hill School	60
Lunsford Primary School	30
Mereworth Community Primary School	30
Offham Primary School	30
Plaxtol Primary School	16
Ryarsh Primary School	22
St George's CEP School	25
St James the Great Primary & Nursery	30
St Katherine's School	90
St Mark's CEP School, Eccles	20
St Peter's CEP School	18
Stansted CEP School	12
Trottiscliffe CEP School	12
Tunbury Primary School	80
West Malling CEP School	28
Wouldham, All Saints CE School	20

Schools in Maidstone 2	2009 PAN
Bell Wood Community School	45
Bredhurst CEP School	15
East Borough Primary School	60
Greenfields Community Primary School	45
Harrietsham CEP School	20
Headcorn Primary School	30
Hollingbourne Primary School	15
Kingswood Primary School	20
Leeds & Broomfield Primary School	12
Lenham Primary School	30
Loose Infant School	90
Loose Junior School	90
Madginford Park Infant School	90
Madginford Park Junior School	90
Molehill Copse Primary School	40
North Borough Junior School	75
Oak Trees Community School	23
Park Way Primary School	45
Platts Heath Primary School	13
Sandling Primary School	60
Senacre Wood Primary School	30
South Borough Primary School	30
St Paul's Infant School	90
Thurnham CEI School	90
Ulcombe CEP School	16

Schools in Tonbridge	2009 PAN
Cage Green Primary School	54
Capel Primary School	30
East Peckham Primary School	30
Hadlow School	25
Hildenborough CEP School	30
Long Mead Community Primary School	20
Shipbourne School	8
Slade Primary School	45
St Stephen's (Tonbridge) Primary	30
Stocks Green Primary School	30
Sussex Road Community Primary School	60
Woodlands Infants School	90
Woodlands Junior School	96

Schools in Thanet 1	2009 PAN
Birchington CEP School	60
Cliftonville Primary School	90
Drapers Mill Primary School	60
Garlinge Community Primary School and Nursery	60
Holy Trinity & St John's CEP, Margate	60
Minster CEP School	60
Monkton Primary School	15
Northdown Primary School	45
Palm Bay Primary School	45
Salmestone Primary School	60
St Crispin's Community Infant Primary	90
St Nicholas-at-Wade CEP School	28
Westgate-on-Sea, St Saviour's CEP Junior	90

Schools in Thanet 2	2009 PAN
Bromstone Primary School	60
Callis Grange Nursery & Infant	90
Chilton Primary School	60
Christ Church CEJ School	60
Dame Janet Community Infant School	90
Dame Janet Community Junior School	90
Ellington Infant School	90
Newington Community Primary School and Nursery	60
Newlands Primary School	60
Priory Infant School	60
St Mildred's Primary Infant School	90
Upton Junior School	128

By: Mr Adam Wilkinson, Managing Director, Environment and Regeneration
Mr Keith Ferrin, Cabinet Member, Environment, Highways and Waste.

To: Cabinet - 6th February 2008.

Subject: Endorsement of the Kent Countryside Access Improvement Plan

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: The Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000 requires the County Council to prepare and publish a Rights of Way Improvement Plan. The Countryside Access Improvement Plan presented here meets this obligation.

This report seeks endorsement from Cabinet to adopt the Countryside Access Improvement Plan as a strategy for the management of public rights of way and countryside access for the period 2007-2017.

1. Introduction

The document evaluates the use and future likely demand on public rights of way and open green space and has been written in accordance with the prescribed process and guidance specified by DEFRA. Recommendations provided by Government are that a Rights of Way Improvement Plan should be a visionary document. This Plan has sought a balance between being visionary and pragmatic in delivering our statutory duties. The document is a Key Decision included in the Forward Plan.

2. Policy Framework

This document sits alongside the Local Transport Plan for Kent 2006-11. Government advice is that the Countryside Access Improvement Plan should be integrated into the next Local Transport Plan in 2012.

3. Implications

Approval of the Countryside Access Improvement Plan will amend the strategy and operational policy for the Countryside Access Service, previously approved by the Policy Overview Committee in July 05.

(1) Towards 2010 –

In delivering the Improvement Plan significant contributions will be made to the following 2010 targets:

Target 45. Protect and enhance Kent's ancient woodlands and improve access to countryside, coast and heritage.

Target 48. Increase opportunities for everyone to take physical exercise.

(2) Budget/Financial Impact –

The DEFRA recommendations are to produce a visionary document for enhanced countryside access. Any areas of the statement of action that would require additional funding are clearly marked in chapter 12 of the main report. Although Government placed a duty on highway authorities to produce a rights of way improvement plan, it has not committed to financing the recommendations they make. They have however, suggested that finance be sought through a variety of grant schemes and incorporated into the Local Transport Plan. Some improvements recognised by the Improvement Plan could be achieved by being designed into Development and Highway schemes.

(3) Equality and Diversity -

In line with DEFRA recommendations an evaluation of the use and demand of countryside access by ethnic minorities, blind, partially-sighted and those with mobility or learning difficulties has been completed. The report delivers a series of actions which will improve opportunities for minority groups.

(4) Customer Service and Delivery –

The implementation of the Countryside Access Improvement Plan will have a significant positive impact of the Service provided by the Countryside Access Service.

(5) Health –

The need to encourage people to take regular exercise is currently high on the political agenda. Studies have shown that walking and cycling can counteract problems such as obesity, coronary heart disease and type II diabetes, as well as improving psychological well-being. Increasingly recreational walking and cycling are being used as a preventative solution to medical conditions. Putting in place the facilities for people to be able to increase their physical exercise through lifestyle changes can make savings for NHS services as well as increasing personal well-being.

(6) Economy & Regeneration -

The benefit of recreational tourism to local economies was harshly demonstrated by the loss of earnings to rural business during the foot and mouth outbreak in 2001. The 2005 England Day Visits Survey revealed that 699 million leisure visits were taken in the English countryside, amounting to expenditure of £9.4 billion. Locally Kent attracted just over 44 million visitors in 2003, which, in turn, generated £1.8 billion, supporting the equivalent of nearly 49,555 jobs. Working with partners and utilising its own countryside assets, actions within the Improvement Plan are designed to recognise the importance of tourism and the rural economy, and support local business.

(7) Development -

An ever present theme of regional planning policy and the local development frameworks is a requirement for sufficient walking and cycling routes, linked to key services to relieve the pressures of increased traffic and support sustainable communities. The Countryside Access Service will work with developers and planners to safeguard and enhance public rights of way and public green space within the growth areas.

(8) Sustainability and Climate Change -

KCC has already signed up to the Nottingham Declaration on climate change that commits us to tackling the causes and effects of a changing climate on our county. Road transport counts for a fifth of the UK's entire national carbon emissions. The provision and promotion of routes that offer a more sustainable travel option for short journeys will help reduce the necessity for the use of the private car and help the County Council towards delivering its commitment.

4. Consultations

The Service has carried out a comprehensive and wide ranging research and consultation process which has gone through four key phases.

(1) Literature and policy review

Relevant National, Regional, Local research and policy has been fully reviewed. To name a few, reviewed documents have included the South East Plan, Local Transport Plan, District and Borough's walking and cycling strategies, Vision for Kent, DEFRA's rural strategy, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty management plans and the Strategy for the Horse Industry in England and Wales.

(2) Public consultation of current needs and demands

(a) Parish and District Councils

All parish councils and district councils have been consulted and many have made significant contributions to the Improvement Plan. Numerous local presentations and opportunities to engage in the preparation of the plan were held.

(b) KCC Staff

KCC managers and officers were heavily involved in the consultation process. This included members of the Environment and Regeneration leadership team, staff from the Communities and Kent Adult Social Services directorates.

(c) User Groups

All known local user groups including The British Horse Society and the Ramblers' Association, have helped the County Council in assessing the needs of their specific user type.

(d) General Public

Questionnaires were completed at a number of events at locations across the county, ranging from the Kent County Show, to eleven shopping centre surveys. Questions about the use and requirements of countryside access were put to the Kent Residents Panel between 8th November 2004 and 9th February 2005. Both the County Councils Internet site and Kent TV have been used to publicise the Plan and provide opportunities for engagement.

(3) Consultation on the plan's objectives

A consultation document on the objectives of the Improvement Plan was published and advertised during January and February 2007. Broad public consultation was considered to be a good way of prioritising the objectives to establish a top fifteen that were the most important to residents.

(4) Draft Countryside Access Improvement Plan Consultation

In accordance with statutory guidance issued by DEFRA, the Improvement Plan went through a three month public consultation having been advertised using local media and the County Council's website. All major land owners and other key stakeholders were notified of the consultation. Comments have all been recorded and where appropriate been incorporated into the final plan.

5. Local Members

Portfolio holders Keith Ferrin and Roger Manning have been engaged throughout the production of the Improvement Plan, and a number of presentations have been completed to Local Member Boards. During the three month draft consultation period, all members were directly contacted and the Draft Improvement Plan was deposited in the members lounge for review.

6. Conclusion

Our research and evaluation of use and demand has given us a clear indication of what the people of Kent would like from its network of public rights of way. From this research we have identified seven key themes to guide the process of improving opportunities for walking, cycling and horse riding. This provides a framework for delivery through the Statement of Action included in the main document. The main issues and details of the how the Service will address them are broken down into the seven themes listed below.

(1) Well Maintained Countryside Access

(2) Growth And Development

(3) A More Sensible Network

(4) Knowing What's Out There

(5) Improving Safety

(6) Education And Respect For The Countryside

(7) Working Smarter and Improving Our Customer Service

7. Recommendations

That Cabinet supports and adopts the Improvement Plan as a strategy to enhance the network of public rights of way network and open green space until 2017.

Background Documents:

1. Countryside Access Improvement Plan Executive Summary (KCC 2007)
2. Countryside Access Improvement Plan (KCC 2007)
3. Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
4. Rights of Way Improvement Plans. Statutory Guidance to Local Highway Authorities in England. (DEFRA 2002.)

Author Contact Details

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To: Cabinet

From: Keith Ferrin, Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways, and Waste,
 Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Supporting
 Independence,
 Adam Wilkinson, Managing Director of Environment &
 Regeneration

Date: 6th February 2008

Subject: Regeneration Strategy for KCC

Classification: Unrestricted

This paper provides an update on E&R's plans for a three year KCC Strategy for Regeneration. It will provide a focus for the County Council's contribution to the economic development and regeneration of Kent

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Economic Development & Regeneration are central to Kent County Council's corporate agenda. Successive Leaders of KCC have placed economic prosperity at the heart of Kent's Community Strategy and Towards 2010 targets.
- 1.2 The recently published sub-national review of Economic Development and Regeneration places a duty on local authorities to deliver economic development in their area, it repositions County Council as the primary delivery body for economic development.
- 1.3 Also recently published, 'Strong & Prosperous Communities' puts local government in a very significant place in terms of the agenda for action that is being laid out to deliver. The agenda today is much bigger than institutional reorganisation; global forces impacting on Social, Environmental and Economic Regeneration are central to the role of local government over the next 10 years.
- 1.4 The basis for progress that we have to establish in the short and medium term is partnership. Strong & Prosperous Communities lays out a clear requirement for a new relationship between Local Government and Local Partners; for stronger relationships with third sector and business through LSP's and, a duty to co-operate with public bodies in the delivery of targets.
- 1.5 Strong & Prosperous Communities also lays out clear expectations for a new relationship between Local Government and Local Communities. It is a double devolution agenda, from central government to local government and from local government to communities. Key to the future is a new duty to inform, consult and involve; asset transfer to communities to own and manage; community kitties and, the establishment of empowerment champions.

- 1.6 KCC's strong existing commitment to economic development and regeneration and the forthcoming changes to the policy framework within which we operate combine to make a compelling case for reviewing the way KCC articulates its ambitions, priorities and actions in terms of social, environmental and economic regeneration.

2. Regeneration Strategy Scope & Approach

- 2.1 The proposed Strategy for KCC's role in Kent's regeneration is the continuation of a long term corporate commitment to regeneration through the activities of Education, Social Services, Arts, Culture, Environment & Transport, and above all, a commitment to tackle deprivation at its root causes.
- 2.2 The strategy will be a living, dynamic document, updated every three years and with an annual action plan. It will set out KCC's regeneration priorities and how these relate to existing overarching Kent documents including Community Strategy, Kent Prospects and strategies for local transport, health, environment, skills, culture and so on. It will also make explicit how KCC's Towards 2010 targets contribute to achieving KCC's corporate regeneration ambitions.

3. Intelligence Led Regeneration

- 3.1 The excellent work of KCC's own Analysis & Information Team has underpinned the success of achieving PSA and LAA targets, providing baseline information and helping to measure progress through the life of the action plans.
- 3.2 The proposed new strategy will go further, it will establish a baseline for Kent across a wide range of indicators under the four broad pillars of Social, Economic & Environmental Regeneration and Connectivity.
- 3.3 Detailed analysis of the baseline indicators will provide the basis for resource allocation to deliver against regeneration priorities and will also provide the basis for conversations with key delivery partners about possibilities for aligning strategies and resources.

4. Consultation & Engagement

- 4.1 During October/November 2007, preliminary discussions were held with District Council regeneration and economic development departments.
- 4.2 This initial engagement will be followed up in February 2008 via workshops with District Council Leaders, Chief Executives and lead officers where development of the strategy will be further discussed. South East England Development Agency and Kent Economic Board are also key consultees, as well as Locate in Kent and Kent Tourism Alliance.
- 4.3 Environment & Regeneration Policy Overview Committee will be consulted on the draft strategy in April 2008.

5. Regeneration Board

- 5.1 Ownership of KCC's strategy for Regeneration by Chief Officers and Cabinet Members right across KCC is essential. It is proposed therefore to establish a cross directorate Regeneration Board with key Cabinet Member representation. The primary purpose of the Board will be to lead the development of the strategy and to oversee and monitor its implementation.

6. Financial Implications

The Regeneration Strategy for KCC will be produced within Environment & Regeneration's existing budget provision. Outcomes of the strategy will be fully costed and built into future budget discussions.

7. Timeframe

- 7.1 KCC's Strategy for Regeneration along with its first annual plan will be published by May 2008.

8. Recommendations

- 8.1 Cabinet Members and Chief Officers are asked to note this report, and support the development of the Strategy and support the establishment of the new Kent Regeneration Board.

Contact

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Background Documents

Department for Communities & Local Government (July 2007) *Review of sub-national economic development & regeneration*, HM Treasury

Department for Communities & Local Government (October 2007) *Strong & Prosperous Communities – The Local Government White Paper*, HMSO

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To: Cabinet

From: Keith Ferrin, Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways, and Waste,
Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Supporting
Independence,
Adam Wilkinson, Managing Director of Environment &
Regeneration

Date: 6th February 2008

Subject: **Environment & Regeneration Directorate Review**

Classification: Unrestricted

This paper provides an update on the ongoing organisational review of Environment and Regeneration.

1. Introduction

As outlined in a previous paper to Cabinet, entitled *Regeneration Strategy for KCC*, it is intended to produce a KCC strategy for regeneration to be published in April 2008.

This strategy will build on the strong existing commitment to economic development and regeneration outlined in existing policy documents. At the same time it will respond to strong external influences currently being exerted on the economic development agenda.

In particular the sub-national review (SNR) of economic development provides an opportunity to reassert sub-regional influence at the County level and considers:

- the degree to which existing sub-national delivery arrangements have contributed to regional economic performance and regeneration goals;
- the most appropriate level to locate responsibility for intervention on economic development, regeneration and neighbourhood renewal;
- the need to reduce overlap and improve co-ordination between national, pan-regional, sub-regional and local agencies and,
- the institutional barriers currently hindering more effective co-ordination of policy decisions and service delivery.

The timing therefore of this organisational review allows maximum advantage to be taken of the changing policy landscape. In particular it is about being fit for purpose in terms of responding to the proposal to “empower all local authorities to promote economic development and neighbourhood renewal”:

- through statutory economic duty;
- increased financial incentive;
- increased delegation of funding from RDAs to local authorities and,
- building local authority capacity to deliver these responsibilities.

2. Context of future structure

Central to the future is to maintain and strengthen the interface between the Directorate, other parts of KCC, District Councils, the Regional Development Agency, and other agencies such as Locate in Kent and Kent Tourism Alliance. Economic Development services are only the tip of the regeneration iceberg. Mainstream services – such as, planning, education, transport, leisure, arts & culture, housing etc can play a crucial role in fostering or sustaining economic vitality for people and places. Similarly, council's policies and practice in purchasing goods and services, and in managing their considerable assets, have an economic impact.

What does this mean for Kent in 2008? Economic development and Regeneration has to be positioned as a paramount corporate objective which every Directorate needs to understand and sign up to from their own perspectives and every Directorate has to deliver against.

Putting regeneration at the centre is therefore a challenge for KCC, not just a challenge for the Environment and Regeneration Directorate. It is a challenge that needs to start with articulating greater clarity about regeneration objectives for Kent. And then being clear about the contribution KCC will choose to make in achieving those objectives and the funding and resources that will be made available. Only then can a conclusion be reached about how best to package services to give the most efficient and effective way to ensure focussed and consistent delivery.

3. Restructure Proposals

In order to increase Environment & Regeneration's strategic capacity, it is proposed that a new **Regeneration Division** be formed. This new Division will strengthen the Directorate's existing strategy and policy functions and will play a key role in positioning Kent at the forefront of regeneration at regional, national and international level. The Division will provide a strategic overview of all regeneration activity across Kent and will be accountable to the proposed KCC Regeneration Board¹, regularly reporting KCC's progress in delivery of the Regeneration Strategy for KCC. Acting in a client role, Regeneration Division will operate a programme management approach to ensure effective project delivery within both Environment & Regeneration and elsewhere in KCC.

A new **Development Division** will be tasked to deliver the key catalytic regeneration projects which cannot readily be handled within the Directorate's two operational divisions (see next section) or elsewhere within KCC. The Development Division will operate on a primarily spatial basis aligned to the Regeneration Strategy. Teams will typically be multi-disciplinary with professionals coming together from development, planning, legal, procurement and others as appropriate and will consequently rely heavily upon full and effective support from other KCC Directorates. The projects being handled by the existing Regeneration & Economy division are being reviewed in the light of the emerging priorities of the Regeneration Strategy for KCC.

The Directorate will have two major operational divisions – *Environment & Waste* and *Kent Highway Services*. The focus of these divisions will be to provide excellent front-line service delivery to the people of Kent. These divisions will have a vital role in delivering overarching objectives of the Regeneration Strategy for KCC. The primary focus is on enhancing the overall natural and built environment, improving the health and safety of Kent’s residents and reducing the fear of crime through their mutually complementary activities in Kent’s streets and countryside. Through their combined local community engagement and strong presence, these operational divisions will work closely with District and other partners to engender citizen pride of place. In due course, a re-branding strategy will be evolved to ensure high visibility of both Environment and Transport operational teams across Kent. An internal review of all units is underway to determine where there are synergies between particular teams, which might result in moves of units between the two new divisions.

To support the functional restructuring of the Directorate described above, at the heart of Environment & Regeneration will sit a new Resources division. All resource functions currently located within divisions will be managed centrally in terms of their overall co-ordination to assure equity and consistency of approach and to improve resource allocation across the directorate. Performance and quality management, business support, finance and procurement capability will be reviewed and strengthened.

A new organisational development programme was initiated during November 2007. It will build on the existing good practice of the corporate programmes that are currently embedded in the work of KCC across the board. Excellence in Everything will refine the Directorate’s central methodologies and processes based on best practice in the areas of marketing and communications (including community engagement and consultation), equalities, health & safety, learning and development, quality management (including business improvement and value for money) and ICT.

4. Financial Implications

The intention is to absorb any costs arising from the restructuring of Environment & Regeneration within the Directorate’s existing budget.

5. Timeframe

The intention is to have the new structure in place by May 2008, in parallel with the publication of the new Kent Regeneration Strategy and its first annual action plan.

6. Recommendations

Cabinet members are asked to note this report and to actively support the functional restructuring of Environment & Regeneration Directorate.

Contact

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Background Documents

Department for Communities & Local Government (July 2007) *Review of sub-national economic development & regeneration*, HM Treasury

By: Mike Hill, Cabinet Member, Community Services
Amanda Honey, Managing Director, Communities

To: Cabinet, 6 February 2008

Subject: Kent 2012 Progress Report on 2007

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: The attached report is presented for information and summarises progress during 2007 on the Kent Campaign for the 2012 Games.

Introduction

1. The Kent Campaign for the 2012 Games was established and is managed by Kent County Council via its Sport, Leisure and Olympics service within the Communities Directorate. The Campaign seeks to ensure that the County derives maximum benefit and long-term legacy from the London 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games.

2. The Campaign involves a partnership of a wide range of organisations in Kent working together under a Coordinating Group; and nine sectoral task groups who aim to `ensure delivery` within the areas of sport, the arts, tourism, economic development and regeneration, volunteering, transport, skills and training, schools and young people, and communications and media.

3. The Campaign has a strategy, which was publicly launched in May 2007 by Dame Kelly Holmes, who is the patron of the Kent Campaign. To date, the work on the Campaign has entailed:

(a) raising awareness of the opportunities for Kent's companies, schools, sports clubs, arts organisations and individuals to take advantage of the Games and be inspired to strive for excellence in all that they do

(b) establishing robust structures to take the work forward

(c) producing a strategy

(d) delivering against the strategy, whilst planning for the long-term benefit for the County.

4. Although the Communities Directorate leads the work on the Campaign, it involves Units across Kent County Council. To ensure cross-Directorate working on 2012 matters, the Cabinet Member for Community Services established and Chairs a Cross-Directorate Group involving Cabinet Members with key roles on 2012. Also, he Chairs a Kent Olympics Advisory Board, which has in its membership

the two Kent Members of Parliament who have an Olympics remit (Hugh Robertson and Derek Wyatt). There is also an all-party Kent County Council Sport, Olympic and Paralympic Group, which provides advice to the Cabinet Member for Community Services.

Resource Implications

5. The Progress Report on 2007 activity contains no additional resource implications for Kent County Council.

Recommendations

Cabinet Members are asked to note the contents of the Progress Report on 2007.

Background Documents:

Attached: Kent Campaign for the 2012 Games: Progress Report on 2007.

Kent Strategy for the 2012 Campaign (see www.kentsport.org/london2012 for full document or request a copy of the summary of key actions contained within the Strategy)

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CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DETAILS OF DECISIONS TAKEN AT MEETING ON
23 JANUARY 2008

Minutes – 12 December

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) On Minute 33(1), the Leader's agreement (reported by Mr Law) to meet the Committee's Chairman and Spokesmen to discuss concerns that, at its meetings, Cabinet did not appear to be giving any consideration to Committee's recommendations, be welcomed.
- (b) On Minute 37(d) and (e), the Informal Member Group on Member Information be asked to look particularly at the quality of information being provided to local Members about all KCC proposals or decisions affecting (indirectly, as well as directly) their Division.

Audit Commission Inspection of Kent Supporting People Programme

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) Mr Lynes, Mr Mills, Miss Highwood and Ms Martin be thanked for attending the meeting to answer Members' questions.
- (b) The Managing Director, KASS, be asked to circulate to all Members of the Committee in due course the Action Plan to be prepared in response to the Audit Commission recommendations.
- (c) The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services' offer to distribute the planned Supporting People Commissioning Body (SPCB) Member Induction Pack to all Members of KCC, and to arrange briefing meetings on the Supporting People Programme for KCC Members, be welcomed.
- (d) The Cabinet Member and Managing Director be requested to ensure that the planned SPCB Member Induction Pack included an explanation of the process by which service-users could give feedback or express concerns about the Supporting People services provided to them.
- (e) The proposals to do more to facilitate independent feedback from users of Supporting People services through 'mystery shopping', user groups, etc, be welcomed and the Managing Director be asked to inform Members of the Committee of the outcome.

The Case for Establishing a Credit Union for Kent

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) Mr Ferrin, Mr Gough, Mr Wilkinson, Mrs Haswell and Mrs Toher be thanked for attending the meeting to answer Members' questions.
- (b) In the light of the assurance by the Cabinet Members for Environment, Highways & Waste, and Regeneration & Supporting Independence, that the feasibility study was expected to cost approximately £20k, and that the incurring of any further expenditure on pursuing the Credit Union proposal would be subject to a further formal decision by Cabinet, the decision by Cabinet on 14 January be supported.
- (c) The Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Supporting Independence's agreement to establish an all-party Informal Member Group (IMG) of Members with knowledge of and/or interest in Credit Unions to oversee the feasibility study be welcomed, and the Cabinet Member be urged to:-
 - (i) include also on the IMG, Members representing areas of high deprivation; and
 - (ii) establish the IMG as quickly as possible.
- (d) Cabinet be advised that, while the Committee was concerned at the potential risks of proceeding with the Credit Union proposal, it hoped that these risks could be mitigated by the carrying out of the feasibility study and the establishment of an all-party IMG to monitor that study.

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