



Summons to and
Agenda for the Ordinary
Full Council

Meeting on

**Thursday, 17th
September, 2026**

**at 10.30 am or on the
rise of the Special
Freedom of the
County Full Council
meeting, whichever is
the later**



DEMOCRATIC SERVICES
SESSIONS HOUSE
MAIDSTONE

Wednesday, 9 September 2026

To: All Members of the County Council

A meeting of the County Council will be held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ on Thursday, 17th September, 2026 at **10.30 am** to deal with the following business. **The meeting is scheduled to end by 4.30 pm.**

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or Other Significant Interests in items on the agenda
3. Minutes of the meeting held on 16 July 2026 **(Pages 1 - 28)**
4. Chairman's Announcements
5. Questions
6. Report by Leader of the Council
7. Planning Applications Committee - Terms of Reference changes **(Pages 29 - 66)**
8. Treasury Management Year End Report **(Pages 67 - 88)**
9. Proportionality Update
(To Follow)
10. Motions for Time Limited Debate **(Pages 89 - 98)**
11. National Anthem

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Watts', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Benjamin Watts
Deputy Chief Executive
03000 416814

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the County Council held in the Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Thursday, 16 July 2026.

PRESENT: Mr J Baker, Mr B Barrett, Mr B Black, Mr O Bradshaw, Mr A Brady, Mr M Brice, Mr M Brown, Mr D Burns, Mr C Burwash, Mr A Cecil, Mr P Chamberlain, Mr W Chapman, Mr B Collins, Mr J Defriend, Mr S Dixon, Ms S Emberson, Mr J Eustace, Mr L Evans, Mr P Evans, Mr J Finch, Mr R Ford, Mrs B Fordham, Mrs G Foster, Mrs M Fothergill, Mr M Fraser Moat, Mr B Fryer, Mr S Heaver, Mr J Henderson, Mr C Hespe, Mr M A J Hood, Mr A J Hook, Mr S Jeffery, Ms L Kemkaran, Mr A Kibble, Mr P King, Mrs M Lawes, Rich Lehmann, Mr M Logen, Mr R Mayall, Mr T Mole, Mr J Moreland, Miss D Morton, Mr M Mulvihill, Mr M Munday, Ms C Nolan, Mr P Osborne, Mrs C Palmer, Mr R Palmer, Mr M Paul, Mrs B Porter, Mr T Prater, Ms A Randall, Mr H Rayner, Mr A Ricketts, Mrs S Roots, Ms C Russell, Mr G R Samme, Mr C Sefton, Mr T L Shonk, Mr D Sian, Mr M J Sole, Mr P Stepto, Mr R G Streatfeild, MBE, Dr G Sturley, Mr P Thomas, Mr A Thorp, Mr D Truder, Mr R Waters, Mr P Webb, Mr N Wibberley, Mr N Williams, Mrs P Williams, Mr D Wimble and Mr R Yates

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr J Cook (Head of Democratic Services), Ms P Der Man (Head of Law - Monitoring Officer) and Canon P Bruinvels CC (Kent County Council Civilian-Military Liaison Adviser and Military Expert)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

82. **The Lord's Prayer** (Item 1)

The meeting started with a reading of the Lord's Prayer, led by Reverend Canon Peter Bruinvels CC.

83. **Apologies for Absence** (Item 2)

The Head of Democratic Services reported apologies from Mr Mark Ellis, Mr Maxwell Harrison, Mrs Sarah Hudson, Mr Andrew Kennedy, Mr Thomas Mallon, Miss Isabella Kemp and Mrs Trudy Dean.

84. **Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or Other Significant Interests in items on the agenda** (Item 3)

1. In relation to Item 9, Kent Mineral Sites Plan, the following declarations were made:

- i. Mr Fraser Moat declared that his family business had an ongoing business relationship with the company involved in the item and therefore he would not be taking part in the item.
- ii. Mr Jeffery declared that he had previously been the Chair of the Save Oaken Wood campaign.
- iii. Ms Russell declared that she worked both in the quarrying industry and in environmental compliance.

85. Minutes of the meeting held on 21 May 2026
(Item 4)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 21 May 2026 were a correct record and they be signed by the Chairman.

86. Corporate Parenting Panel - Minutes for noting
(Item 5)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel on 17 February 2026 and 21 April 2026 be noted.

87. Chairman's Announcements
(Item 6)

1. The Chairman welcomed tributes in relation to the sad passing of Miss Ann Widdecombe, who was a MP for Maidstone and The Weald from 1987 until 2010.
2. Tributes to Miss Widdecombe were made by Ms Kemkaran, Mr Hook, Mr Thomas, Mr Rayner, Mr Hood, Ms Nolan, Mr Burwash, Mrs Palmer and Mr Jeffery.
3. Mr Eustace proposed, and Mr Sian seconded, that the Council formally record the sense of loss it feels on the sad passing of Miss Widdecombe and extends to her family and friends its heartfelt sympathy to them in their sad bereavement.

Agreed unanimously.

4. The Chairman held a one-minute silence in memory of Miss Ann Widdecombe.

RESOLVED that the Council formally record the sense of loss it feels on the sad passing of Miss Widdecombe and extends to her family and friends its heartfelt sympathy to them in their sad bereavement.

5. The Chairman shared his congratulations to the 37 Kent recipients of honours from the King's Birthday Honours list 2026.
6. The Chairman thanked Ms Jamie Palmer for her work within the Civic Office.
7. The Chairman reported that recent engagements had included two Royal visits to Kent, attendance at commemorations in Ramsgate marking the 86th anniversary of Operation Dynamo, and participation in Armed Forces Week activities, including hosting the flag-raising ceremony at County Hall and attending events in Deal. The Chairman also attended a commemorative concert in Deal performed by the Band of His Majesty's Royal Marines in memory of the 11 Royal Marines murdered in the Deal bombing in 1989. The concert was a solemn occasion recognising the sacrifices made in service to the country.
8. The Chairman shared that the Vice-Chairman had attended a number of Royal engagements and had met both the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester during recent civic duties.
9. Members were informed that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman had attended a range of civic and community events, including receptions hosted by the Lord-Lieutenant for newly elected mayors and chairmen, mayor-making ceremonies across the county, Kent Ambassadors briefings and activities, the Bishop of Rochester's Summer Garden Party, the Kent County Show, and events held as part of Adult Careers Week.
10. The Chairman reported on a recent Kent Ambassadors' visit which included visits to Domaine Evremond, East Kent College, The Yarrow Hotel and Discovery Park. Members heard that common themes emerging from the visits included investment in young people, skills development, adult education and the growth of Kent's food, drink and tourism sectors.
11. The Chairman advised that citizenship ceremonies continued to be held regularly and thanked former Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen who had assisted with these events.
12. Congratulations were extended to Members who had recently assumed new civic leadership positions and responsibilities across local councils within Kent.
13. The Chairman informed Members of a minor amendment to the Council's flag flying policy. Two additional commemorative flag days would be incorporated, Waterloo Day on 18 June in recognition of the British Army and Battle of Britain Day on 15 September in recognition of the Royal Air Force. These additions complemented the existing observance of Trafalgar Day and Merchant Navy Day. As Waterloo Day had already

passed in the current year, the Army flag would instead be flown on 2 November 2026 to commemorate El Alamein Day.

14. The Chairman announced that the Holocaust Educational Trust had been selected as the Chairman's Charity of the Year. The charity worked to educate young people and communities about the Holocaust. Its work included educational programmes, teacher training and survivor testimony. The Chairman confirmed that representatives of the Trust would attend a future meeting to provide further information on its activities.
15. The Vice-Chairman introduced his chosen Charity of the Year, Spadework. He explained that he had become familiar with the organisation through local community engagement and had supported its work through his Member Grant funding.
16. Ms Smith, Community Fundraiser at Spadework, provided an overview of the charity's work and thanked the Council for selecting Spadework as one of its Charities of the Year. Members heard that Spadework had supported people across Kent for more than 40 years, promoting inclusion, belonging and wellbeing through services for adults with learning disabilities, people living with dementia, individuals experiencing mental health difficulties, those affected by bereavement, and their carers. Members were informed that the charity helped people develop confidence, independence and social connections through a range of activities and that income generated through its garden centre, café, farm shop and charity shop supported its work while creating opportunities for volunteering and skills development. The importance of partnership working was highlighted, and the opportunity to work with Kent County Council during the coming year was welcomed.
17. The Chairman thanked Ms Smith for her presentation and stated that Members looked forward to receiving a future update on the charity's activities and achievements.
18. The Chairman reminded Members to complete any outstanding mandatory training, including emergency evacuation training. He advised Members to review communications issued by the Governance Division regarding training requirements.
19. The Chairman concluded by reminding Members of proper Full Council protocol including advice to address all remarks through the Chair and that Members should not criticise the motives of any Officer or Member, in accordance the Constitutional requirements.

88. Questions *(Item 7)*

In accordance with Sections 14.15 to 14.22 of the Constitution, 19 questions were submitted by the deadline and 18 questions were put to the Executive.

11 questions were asked and replies given. A record of all questions and answers is available [online](#) with the papers for this meeting.

89. Report by Leader of the Council
(Item 8)

1. The Leader began by providing an update on key activities and developments since the previous meeting. The Leader explained that, despite ongoing uncertainty surrounding Local Government Reorganisation, Members and officers had continued to focus on the delivery of services to residents across Kent.
2. The Leader reported that the Council had continued to prioritise service delivery, including the maintenance of highways, support for vulnerable children, provision of adult social care, operation of libraries, and wider community services.
3. The public budget consultation had been launched to seek residents' views on spending priorities and the allocation of approximately £2.8 billion of public funding. The consultation was intended to inform future financial planning and ensure that residents' views were reflected in decision-making.
4. An update was provided on matters affecting Kent's tourism sector. The Leader reported that representations had been made to Government regarding support for businesses and the wider visitor economy.
5. The Leader advised that correspondence had been sent to the Secretary of State for Transport regarding anticipated impacts of the European Union Entry/Exit System and the effect of traffic management arrangements on Kent residents, businesses and visitors. Efforts to identify alternative arrangements and reduce disruption were continuing.
6. There was ongoing engagement with Government and rail operators to explore opportunities for the return of international rail services to Kent stations, including discussions regarding the installation of Entry/Exit System facilities.
7. The Leader reported that disruptions to water supplies experienced in parts of Kent during May had prompted the establishment of the Kent Water Resilience Partnership. The partnership would meet for the first time in October and would provide strategic leadership and coordination to improve water resilience across the county.
8. The Leader noted that discussions had been arranged with the newly appointed leadership of the local water provider to support collaborative working on water resilience issues.

9. Councillors had participated in community litter-picking activities and that the Council continued to promote environmental responsibility and cleaner public spaces.
10. The Leader advised that the first Kent County Council Fly-Tipping and Waste Conference had been held in Ashford. The event brought together partner organisations to share expertise and support the development of a county-wide fly-tipping action plan. A partnership would continue to meet regularly to monitor progress and address emerging issues.
11. The Leader highlighted activities undertaken during Armed Forces Week and Armed Forces Day, including attendance at events across Kent and a visit to a veterans' support facility near Maidstone. The facility was intended to provide support and assistance to military veterans experiencing a range of challenges.
12. The Council had hosted representatives from other local authorities following local elections, providing an opportunity to share experience and learning relating to council governance and efficiency.
13. The Leader reported on continued development of the Council's efficiency and organisational improvement work, noting that its approach had attracted interest from local government organisations more widely.
14. The Leader provided feedback from attendance at the Local Government Association Conference, including participation in a session regarding opportunities for young people to engage with and work in local government.
15. An update was given following a visit to a Family Hub in Maidstone. Members were informed of the range of support services available to families, children and young people, including support from pregnancy through to early adulthood, with additional provision for those with special educational needs and disabilities.
16. The Leader reported that correspondence had been exchanged with Kent Police regarding policing matters and community confidence.
17. Kent County Council had attended the Kent County Show under the theme of supporting families and shaping futures. Council staff had engaged with residents and provided information on a wide range of services, including family support, fostering, adult social care, libraries, skills training, community wellbeing and trading standards.
18. Mr Hook, Leader of the Opposition, began by criticising the decision to reduce the time allocated for Opposition Group Leaders to respond to the Leader's Report.
19. Mr Hook welcomed the Chairman's decision to mark Battle of Britain Day and Waterloo Day, highlighting the importance of international cooperation

in both events. He also congratulated the England football team and praised Gravesend-raised Marc Guéhi for his contribution to the national side.

20. Mr Hook referred to the unanimously agreed Entry/ Exit System (EES) motion passed at the previous meeting and expressed disappointment that no action plan had been produced ahead of the summer period. He criticised the Administration's response to the issue and stated that responsibility for any resulting disruption on Kent's roads would rest with the Administration.
21. Mr Hook spoke about the importance of inclusion in achieving community unity and highlighted support for local Pride events. He expressed support for LGBT residents and called for the Council to reinstate the practice of flying the Pride flag, highlighting that a petition in support of this had been signed at Canterbury Pride.
22. Mr Hook stressed the importance of supporting vulnerable residents requiring medical care and referred to discussion at the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) on proposed In Vitro Fertilisation (IVF) service changes. He criticised comments made by a member of the Administration regarding IVF and called on the Leader to condemn those remarks and distance herself from them.
23. Finally, Mr Hook referred to the recent Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) inspection and commended the work of teachers, SENCOs and headteachers. He welcomed the forthcoming publication of the Ofsted report and its assessment of progress and areas for further improvement.
24. Mr Thomas, Leader of the Restore Britain Kent Group, began by emphasising the importance of constructive dialogue and good working relationships between political groups.
25. Referring to the Quarterly Performance Report, Mr Thomas welcomed the Section 25 Assurance Statement and its recognition of the need for members to address the Council's financial challenges and ensure the authority's finances remain robust.
26. On the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP), Mr Thomas highlighted risks identified in relation to funding gaps, the unapproved SEND Reform Plan and the need to deliver significant savings. He warned that failure to address these issues could have serious implications for the Dedicated Schools Grant and the Council's reserve levels.
27. Regarding water resilience in Kent, Mr Thomas stressed the need for investment in underground pipe infrastructure, surface reservoirs and boosters, arguing that tangible action was required to address long-term water supply challenges.

28. Mr Thomas welcomed recent engagement on tackling fly- tipping and argued that the perpetrators, rather than innocent landowners and farmers, should bear the cost of the clean-up. Referring to the Kent County Show, he also highlighted the value of school farms and called for continued support to help them grow and reopen where they had closed.
29. Mr Thomas highlighted the potential financial impact of Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) and the associated pressure on reserves in the short term.
30. Finally, Mr Thomas raised concerns about the employment of political assistants and referred to a recent funding request from within his group that had been declined.
31. Mr Rayner, Leader of the Conservative Group, raised concerns on the potential impact of future hostilities on critical infrastructure, particularly electricity generation and freshwater supplies in Kent. He encouraged the Administration to support training for Members and communities to improve resilience and preparedness in the event of disruption to local electrical infrastructure.
32. Mr Rayner also referred to the importance of household and community resilience during periods of disruption to food supply and distribution networks. He encouraged the Administration to work with parish and town councils and other community organisations to provide guidance and support to residents in the event of disruption to essential services, including communications and internet connectivity.
33. Finally, in reference to LGR, Mr Rayner expressed the hope that any future changes to local government structures would be supported by effective coordination between authorities on matters such as highways and related services.
34. The Leader of the Council addressed the Chamber explaining that the Government had announced its decision on Local Government Reorganisation in Kent and Medway. She advised that the area would be served by four new unitary councils from April 2028 under the model referred to as Option 4B.
35. The Leader expressed disappointment that details of the announcement had entered the public domain before being formally presented to the Council and highlighted that the information had been subject to a strict embargo.
36. The Leader offered an apology to staff who had become aware of the announcement through media reporting rather than through official Council communications.

37. Members were informed that the Government's decision did not reflect the option previously supported by Kent County Council.
38. The Leader advised that the Council would take time to consider the implications of the decision for Kent, including the proposed implementation arrangements and timescales.
39. It was emphasised that the Council's immediate priority remained the delivery of services to residents, the continued support of its workforce throughout the transition period, and the maintenance of services relied upon by the public.
40. Members were advised that information relating to the announcement would be published on the Council's website and social media channels.
41. The Leader considered that it would be inappropriate for detailed debate on the matter to take place at the meeting, highlighting that there was a dedicated Cabinet Committee to consider issues relating to Local Government Reorganisation.
42. Mr Hood, Leader of the Green Group, addressed the Council and referred to recent county events and issues affecting the authority.
43. He explained that, although advance briefings for opposition leaders were no longer provided prior to meetings of the full Council, he had attended a number of recent engagements and events which had informed his understanding of current matters affecting the authority.
44. He referred to attendance at the Kent County Show and welcomed the wide range of livestock, produce, food and drink on display, highlighting the importance of Kent's agricultural sector and local producers.
45. He also referred to attending a conference on fly-tipping, where discussion had focused on partnership working between agencies to address environmental crime and the impact of organised criminal activity on communities and the environment.
46. Reference was made to community clean-up initiatives undertaken by local groups and volunteers and the contribution these activities made to local environmental improvements.
47. Mr Hood commented on proposals relating to Local Government Reorganisation and expressed concerns regarding the potential impact on local democratic representation and the size of electoral divisions.
48. He paid tribute to officers of the Council and acknowledged the uncertainty that proposed local government changes could create for employees. He recognised the contribution made by staff in delivering services to residents across the county.

49. He expressed the hope that forthcoming announcements regarding local government arrangements would provide greater certainty for officers and support the continued resilience and quality of public services.
50. Mr Brady, Leader of the Labour Group, began by emphasising the importance of recognising positive developments locally and nationally. He highlighted various key achievements of the Labour Government over the previous 2 years, including record investment in public services, reductions in NHS waiting times, falls in net migration and knife crime and lower childcare costs.
51. Mr Brady stated that debate should allow for the consideration of alternative viewpoints and that Members should be able to challenge differing perspectives respectfully and without disruption. Finally, he advocated for respectful and balanced discussion within the chamber, with a focus on constructive challenge and avoiding personal criticism of Members.
52. The Leader of the Council responded to comments made during the preceding debate and provided closing remarks on a range of matters raised by Members.
53. The Leader explained that a number of issues had been raised by different political groups and observed that several points appeared contradictory. Reference was made to comments concerning attendance at events and engagement with Members, with the Leader highlighting that concerns about limited contact were raised alongside examples of regular attendance and invitations to various events and meetings.
54. The Leader also commented on references made to Local Government Reorganisation and expressed the view that conclusions regarding the future of council staff were premature, given that the process had only recently been announced.
55. In response to comments relating to invitations to council events and forums, the Leader stated that examples had been provided of invitations and attendance at a number of council-led events and activities.
56. The Leader further responded to comments regarding achievements and performance, noting that a number of achievements had been cited during the debate.
57. The Leader concluded by addressing the Administration's approach to inclusivity and explained the council's flag-flying policy. It was stated that the flag of Kent was flown to represent all residents of Kent, the flag of St George was flown to represent England and the Union Flag was flown to represent the United Kingdom. The Leader stated that this was intended to ensure that all residents were represented and included.

90. Kent Minerals Sites Plan
(Item 9)

1. Mr Wimble proposed and Mr Fryer seconded the motion that:

“The County Council is asked to:

1.

- (i) Approve, and publish, a Pre-Submission Draft of the updated Kent Mineral Sites Plan (Appendix A) for representations on soundness and legal compliance;
- (ii) Agree to submit the Pre-Submission Draft of updated Kent Mineral Sites Plan to Government for Independent Examination into its soundness and legal compliance following the representation period;
- (iii) Agree to request the examination Inspector to recommend changes (‘main modifications’) needed to ensure the soundness of the Kent Mineral Sites Plan; and
- (iv) Delegate powers to the Corporate Director for Growth, Environment & Transport to, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member,
 - a. Approve any non-material changes to the Pre-Submission Draft Kent Mineral Sites Plan and its supporting documents before publication or submission.
 - b. Agree main modifications with the Inspector and to publish them for representations on soundness and legal compliance;
 - c. Approve any non-material changes to the draft Kent Mineral Sites Plan;

2. Note the timetable for preparation of the Kent Mineral Sites Plan 2026 set out in the updated Kent Minerals and Waste Development Scheme at Appendix B.”

2. Following the debate, the Chairman put the motion set out in paragraph 1 to the vote and the voting was as follows.

For (37)

Mr M Brown, Mr W Chapman, Mr B Collins, Mr S Dixon, Ms S Emberson, Mr J Eustace, Mr L Evans, Mrs B Fordham, Mrs G Foster, Mr B Fryer, Mr J Henderson, Mr C Hespe, Ms L Kemkaran, Mr A Kibble, Mr P King, Mrs M Lawes, Mr R Mayall, Mr T Mole, Mr M Mulvihill, Mr P Osborne, Mrs C Palmer, Mr R Palmer, Mr M Paul, Mrs B Porter, Mr H Rayner, Mrs S Roots, Ms C Russell, Mr T L Shonk, Mr D Sian, Dr G Sturley, Mr P Thomas, Mr A Thorp, Mr D Truder, Mr R Waters, Mr P Webb, Mrs P Williams and Mr D Wimble.

Against (31)

Mr J Baker, Mr B Black, Mr O Bradshaw, Mr A Brady, Mr M Brice, Mr D Burns, Mr C Burwash, Mr P Chamberlain, Mr P Evans, Mr J Finch, Mr R Ford, Mrs M Fothergill, Mr S Heaver, Mr M A J Hood, Mr A J Hook, Mr S Jeffery, Mr J Moreland, Miss D Morton, Mr M Munday, Ms C Nolan, Mr T Prater, Miss A Randall, Mr A Ricketts, Mr G R Samme, Mr C Sefton, Mr M Sole, Mr P Stepto, Mr R G Streatfeild, Mr N Wibberley, Mr N Williams and Mr R Yates.

Abstain (4)

Mr B Barrett, Mr A Cecil, Mr J Defriend and Mr M Logen.

Motion carried.

RESOLVED that Council:

1.
 - (i) Approves, and publishes, a Pre-Submission Draft of the updated Kent Mineral Sites Plan (Appendix A) for representations on soundness and legal compliance;
 - (ii) Agrees to submit the Pre-Submission Draft of updated Kent Mineral Sites Plan to Government for Independent Examination into its soundness and legal compliance following the representation period;
 - (iii) Agrees to request the examination Inspector to recommend changes ('main modifications') needed to ensure the soundness of the Kent Mineral Sites Plan; and
 - (iv) Delegates powers to the Corporate Director for Growth, Environment & Transport to, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member,
 - a. Approves any non-material changes to the Pre-Submission Draft Kent Mineral Sites Plan and its supporting documents before publication or submission.
 - b. Agrees main modifications with the Inspector and to publish them for representations on soundness and legal compliance;
 - c. Approves any non-material changes to the draft Kent Mineral Sites Plan;
2. Notes the timetable for preparation of the Kent Mineral Sites Plan 2026 set out in the updated Kent Minerals and Waste Development Scheme at Appendix B.

91. Quarterly Performance Report - Year End 2025/26
(Item 10)

1. Ms Kemkaran proposed and Mr Collins seconded the motion that:

"Council is asked to:

NOTE the Performance Report”

2. Following the debate, the Chairman put the motion set out in paragraph 1 and it was agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED that Council:

NOTES the Performance Report.

92. Water Resilience in Kent
(Item 11)

1. Ms Kemkaran proposed and Mr Henderson seconded the motion that:

“County Council is asked to:

- I. NOTE the increasing frequency and impact of water supply disruption in Kent and the significant implications for residents, businesses, public services and future growth
 - II. ENDORSE the Council’s leadership, convening and advocacy role in working with Government, regulators, water companies, district and borough councils, businesses and community partnerships to improve water resilience.
 - III. SUPPORT the development of KCC’s 25-year Water Resources Strategy and the integration of water resilience into planning, infrastructure, emergency response and economic development activity.
 - IV. SUPPORT the establishment of the Kent Water Resilience Partnership as the principal county-wide forum for identifying priorities, securing commitments and developing a shared action plan.
 - V. NOTE that the recommendations from the Scrutiny Committee Short Focused Inquiry will be considered through the appropriate governance route, with accepted actions incorporated into the wider resilience programme.”
2. Mr Sole proposed and Mr Hook seconded the following amendment to the recommendation set out in paragraph 1:

“County Council is asked to:

- I. NOTE the increasing frequency and impact of water supply disruption in Kent and the significant implications for residents, businesses, public services and future growth
- II. ENDORSE the Council's leadership, convening and advocacy role in working with Government, regulators, water companies, district and borough councils, businesses and community partnerships to improve water resilience.
- III. SUPPORT the development of KCC's 25-year Water Resources Strategy and the integration of water resilience into planning, infrastructure, emergency response and economic development activity.
- IV. SUPPORT the establishment of the Kent Water Resilience Partnership as the principal county-wide forum for identifying priorities, securing commitments and developing a shared action plan.
- V. NOTE that the recommendations from the Scrutiny Committee Short Focused Inquiry will be considered through the appropriate governance route, with accepted actions incorporated into the wider resilience programme.
- VI. **ACKNOWLEDGE the important role of the Council's Flood Risk and Water Management Committee and ensure that regular progress reports on the Water Resources Strategy and the Kent Water Resilience Partnership, are made to that Committee."**

3. Following the debate, the Chairman put the amendment in paragraph 2 to the vote and the voting was as follows.

For (27)

Mr B Black, Mr O Bradshaw, Mr A Brady, Mr M Brice, Mr D Burns, Mr R Ford, Mrs M Forthergill, Mr S Heaver, Mr M A J Hood, Mr A J Hook, Mr S Jeffery, Mr J Moreland, Mr M Munday, Ms C Nolan, Mr T Prater, Miss A Randall, Mr H Rayner, Mr A Ricketts, Ms C Russell, Mr G R Samme, Mr C Sefton, Mr M Sole, Mr P Stepto, Mr R G Streatfeild, Mr P Thomas, Mr N Williams and Mr R Yates.

Against (45)

Mr J Baker, Mr M Brown, Mr C Burwash, Mr A Cecil, Mr P Chamberlain, Mr W Chapman, Mr B Collins, Mr J Defriend, Mr S Dixon, Ms S Emberson, Mr J Eustace, Mr L Evans, Mr P Evans, Mr J Finch, Mrs B Fordham, Mrs G Foster, Mr M Fraser Moat, Mr B Fryer, Mr J Henderson, Mr C Hespe, Ms L Kemkaran, Mr A Kibble, Mr P King, Mrs M Lawes, Mr M Logen, Mr R Mayall, Mr T Mole, Miss D Morton, Mr M Mulvihill, Mr P Osborne, Mrs C Palmer, Mr R Palmer, Mr M Paul, Mrs B Porter, Mrs S Roots, Mr T L Shonk, Mr D Sian, Dr G Sturley, Mr A Thorp,

Mr D Truder, Mr R Waters, Mr P Webb, Mr N Wibberley, Mrs P Williams and Mr D Wimble.

Abstain (0)

Amendment lost.

4. Following the debate, the Chairman put the motion in paragraph 1 to the vote and the voting was as follows.

For (72)

Mr J Baker, Mr B Black, Mr O Bradshaw, Mr A Brady, Mr M Brice, Mr M Brown, Mr D Burns, Mr C Burwash, Mr A Cecil, Mr P Chamberlain, Mr W Chapman, Mr B Collins, Mr J Defriend, Mr S Dixon, Ms S Emberson, Mr J Eustace, Mr L Evans, Mr P Evans, Mr J Finch, Mr R Ford, Mrs B Fordham, Mrs G Foster, Mrs M Fothergill, Mr M Fraser Moat, Mr B Fryer, Mr S Heaven, Mr J Henderson, Mr C Hespe, Mr M A J Hood, Mr A J Hook, Mr S Jeffery, Ms L Kemkaran, Mr A Kibble, Mr P King, Mrs M Lawes, Mr M Logen, Mr R Mayall, Mr T Mole, Mr J Moreland, Miss D Morton, Mr M Mulvihill, Mr M Munday, Ms C Nolan, Mr P Osborne, Mrs C Palmer, Mr R Palmer, Mr M Paul, Mrs B Porter, Mr T Prater, Miss A Randall, Mr H Rayner, Mr A Ricketts, Mrs S Roots, Ms C Russell, Mr G R Samme, Mr C Sefton, Mr T L Shonk, Mr D Sian, Mr M Sole, Mr P Stepto, Mr R G Streatfeild, Dr G Sturley, Mr P Thomas, Mr A Thorp, Mr D Truder, Mr R Waters, Mr P Webb, Mr N Wibberley, Mr N Williams, Mrs P Williams, Mr D Wimble and Mr R Yates.

Against (0)

Abstain (0)

Motion carried.

RESOLVED that Council:

- I. NOTES the increasing frequency and impact of water supply disruption in Kent and the significant implications for residents, businesses, public services and future growth
- II. ENDORSES the Council's leadership, convening and advocacy role in working with Government, regulators, water companies, district and borough councils, businesses and community partnerships to improve water resilience.
- III. SUPPORTS the development of KCC's 25-year Water Resources Strategy and the integration of water resilience into planning, infrastructure, emergency response and economic development activity.

- IV. SUPPORTS the establishment of the Kent Water Resilience Partnership as the principal county-wide forum for identifying priorities, securing commitments and developing a shared action plan.
- V. NOTES that the recommendations from the Scrutiny Committee Short Focused Inquiry will be considered through the appropriate governance route, with accepted actions incorporated into the wider resilience programme.

93. Urgent Decisions Annual Report
(Item 12)

- 1. Ms Kemkaran proposed and Mr Collins seconded the motion that:

“Council is asked to:

NOTE the Report”
- 2. Following the debate, the Chairman put the motion set out in paragraph 1 and it was agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED that Council:

NOTES the Report.

- 3. The Chairman proposed that, under s14.48 of the Constitution, Council resolve to extend the meeting beyond 4:30pm and it was put to the vote it was agreed by a majority.

RESOLVED that the County Council agree to continue the meeting beyond 4:30pm.

94. Motions for Time Limited Debate
(Item 13)

- 1. Mr Heaver proposed and Mr Hood seconded the motion that:

“This Council resolves to:

- 1. Welcome the Water Supply Short Focused Inquiry (SFI) report, thank the Members and Officers involved for their work examining the water outages in Winter 2025/2026 and note the requirement for the Executive to provide a response to the report and its recommendations to the Scrutiny Committee in due course but also recognise that there are a range of other water related issues that merit immediate consideration by the Council.

2. Recommend that the Executive to write to Southern Water and request that its published CSO spill data is condensed into a concise Kent-wide Combined Sewer Outfall (CSO) spill report and submitted on a quarterly basis to enable more effective scrutiny of water borne pollution and the progress of spill reduction efforts, across the county.
 3. Recommend that the Executive to write to Southern Water to request a concise quarterly report on the county-wide progress of the Clean Rivers and Seas Task Force and to offer Southern Water any appropriate support from KCC for their efforts to reduce CSO spills across the county and with particular regard to encouraging SUDS on KCC owned buildings and infrastructure such as schools and libraries.
 4. Recommend that the Cabinet Member for Environment, Coastal Regeneration and Public Health to write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to recommend that any future fines imposed by the regulator on water companies (or other private or public bodies) for water related failure incidents in Kent, are ring-fenced for water infrastructure and pollution/sewage release prevention improvements.
 5. Recommend that the Flood Risk and Water Management Committee consider; asking the Environment Agency to provide a report on the number of pollution incidents for each category report by the Water Companies, many of these resulted in inspections in Kent over the last 5 years; and consider recommending that the Quarterly Environment Agency updates on this matter form part of routine performance monitoring by the Committee.
 6. Request that the Executive investigate the feasibility of setting up, facilitating and promoting via Plan Sea or any other appropriate means, the development and support of citizen science testing teams on key bathing water areas and rivers seek greater partnership working between all responsible authorities, including water companies, Districts and the Environment Agency alongside supporting existing projects and research to improve monitoring of bathing water quality.
 7. Recommend that the Scrutiny Committee consider requesting a Public Health report on the impact, risks of and KCC responsibilities in relation to water outages and in particular, waterborne pollution in Kent.
 8. Recommend that the Executive engages with relevant stakeholders to ensure the first Kent and Medway Spatial Development Strategy has due regard to issues relating to water supply, wastewater management and water demand throughout the preparation, adoption and delivery of the strategy.“
2. Mr Chapman proposed and Mr Paul seconded the following amendment to the motion set out in paragraph 1:

“This Council resolves to:

1. Welcome the Water Supply Short Focused Inquiry (SFI) report, thank the Members and Officers involved for their work examining the water outages in Winter 2025/2026 and note the requirement for the Executive to provide a response to the report and its recommendations to the Scrutiny Committee in due course but also recognise that there are a range of other water related issues that merit immediate consideration by the Council.
2. Recommend that the Executive to write to Southern Water and request that its published CSO spill data is condensed into a concise Kent-wide Combined Sewer Outfall (CSO) spill report and submitted on a quarterly basis to enable more effective scrutiny of water borne pollution and the progress of spill reduction efforts, across the county.
3. Recommend that the Executive to write to Southern Water to request a concise quarterly report on the county-wide progress of the Clean Rivers and Seas Task Force and to offer Southern Water any appropriate support from KCC for their efforts to reduce CSO spills across the county and with particular regard to encouraging SUDS on KCC owned buildings and infrastructure such as schools and libraries.
4. Recommend that the Cabinet Member for Environment, Coastal Regeneration and Public Health to write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to recommend that any future fines imposed by the regulator on water companies (or other private or public bodies) for water related failure incidents in Kent, are ring-fenced for water infrastructure and pollution/sewage release prevention improvements.
5. Recommend that the Flood Risk and Water Management Committee consider; asking the Environment Agency to provide a report on the number of pollution incidents for each category report by the Water Companies, many of these resulted in inspections in Kent over the last 5 years; and consider recommending that the Quarterly Environment Agency updates on this matter form part of routine performance monitoring by the Committee.
6. Request that the Executive investigate the feasibility of setting up, facilitating and promoting via Plan Sea or any other appropriate means, the development and support of citizen science testing teams on key bathing water areas and rivers seek greater partnership working between all responsible authorities, including water companies, Districts and the Environment Agency alongside supporting existing projects and research to improve monitoring of bathing water quality.
7. Recommend that the **Scrutiny Flood Risk and Water Management Committee** consider requesting a Public Health report on

the impact, risks of and KCC responsibilities in relation to water outages and in particular, waterborne pollution in Kent.

8. Recommend that the Executive engages with relevant stakeholders to ensure the first Kent and Medway Spatial Development Strategy has due regard to issues relating to water supply, wastewater management and water demand throughout the preparation, adoption and delivery of the strategy.“
3. Following the debate, the Chairman put the amendment set out in paragraph 2 and it was agreed unanimously.
4. Following the debate, the Chairman put the substantive motion set out in paragraph 2 to the vote and the voting was as follows.

For (71)

Mr J Baker, Mr B Black, Mr O Bradshaw, Mr A Brady, Mr M Brice, Mr M Brown, Mr D Burns, Mr C Burwash, Mr A Cecil, Mr P Chamberlain, Mr W Chapman, Mr B Collins, Mr J Defriend, Mr S Dixon, Ms S Emberson, Mr J Eustace, Mr L Evans, Mr P Evans, Mr J Finch, Mr R Ford, Mrs B Fordham, Mrs G Foster, Mrs M Fothergill, Mr M Fraser Moat, Mr B Fryer, Mr S Heaven, Mr J Henderson, Mr C Hespe, Mr M A J Hood, Mr A J Hook, Mr S Jeffery, Ms L Kemkaran, Mr A Kibble, Mr P King, Mrs M Lawes, Mr M Logen, Mr R Mayall, Mr T Mole, Mr J Moreland, Miss D Morton, Mr M Mulvihill, Mr M Munday, Ms C Nolan, Mr P Osborne, Mrs C Palmer, Mr R Palmer, Mr M Paul, Mrs B Porter, Mr T Prater, Miss A Randall, Mr H Rayner, Mr A Ricketts, Mrs S Roots, Ms C Russell, Mr G R Samme, Mr C Sefton, Mr T L Shonk, Mr D Sian, Mr M Sole, Mr P Stepto, Mr R G Streatfeild, Dr G Sturley, Mr P Thomas, Mr A Thorp, Mr D Truder, Mr R Waters, Mr P Webb, Mr N Wibberley, Mrs P Williams, Mr D Wimble and Mr R Yates.

Against (0)

Abstain (0)

Motion carried.

RESOLVED that Council:

1. Welcomes the Water Supply Short Focused Inquiry (SFI) report, thanks the Members and Officers involved for their work examining the water outages in Winter 2025/2026 and notes the requirement for the Executive to provide a response to the report and its recommendations to the Scrutiny Committee in due course but also recognises that there are a range of other water related issues that merit immediate consideration by the Council.
2. Recommends that the Executive to write to Southern Water and request that its published CSO spill data is condensed into a concise

Kent-wide Combined Sewer Outfall (CSO) spill report and submitted on a quarterly basis to enable more effective scrutiny of water borne pollution and the progress of spill reduction efforts, across the county.

3. Recommends that the Executive to write to Southern Water to request a concise quarterly report on the county-wide progress of the Clean Rivers and Seas Task Force and to offer Southern Water any appropriate support from KCC for their efforts to reduce CSO spills across the county and with particular regard to encouraging SUDS on KCC owned buildings and infrastructure such as schools and libraries.
 4. Recommends that the Cabinet Member for Environment, Coastal Regeneration and Public Health to write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to recommend that any future fines imposed by the regulator on water companies (or other private or public bodies) for water related failure incidents in Kent, are ring-fenced for water infrastructure and pollution/sewage release prevention improvements.
 5. Recommends that the Flood Risk and Water Management Committee consider; asking the Environment Agency to provide a report on the number of pollution incidents for each category report by the Water Companies, many of these resulted in inspections in Kent over the last 5 years; and consider recommending that the Quarterly Environment Agency updates on this matter form part of routine performance monitoring by the Committee.
 6. Requests that the Executive investigate the feasibility of setting up, facilitating and promoting via Plan Sea or any other appropriate means, the development and support of citizen science testing teams on key bathing water areas and rivers seek greater partnership working between all responsible authorities, including water companies, Districts and the Environment Agency alongside supporting existing projects and research to improve monitoring of bathing water quality.
 7. Recommends that the Flood Risk and Water Management Committee consider requesting a Public Health report on the impact, risks of and KCC responsibilities in relation to water outages and in particular, waterborne pollution in Kent.
 8. Recommends that the Executive engages with relevant stakeholders to ensure the first Kent and Medway Spatial Development Strategy has due regard to issues relating to water supply, wastewater management and water demand throughout the preparation, adoption and delivery of the strategy.
5. Mr Dixon proposed and Mr Evans seconded the motion that:

“The Council resolves to agree the following principles

The Council will:

- (a) Comply with the Equality Act 2010 and the General and Specific Duties placed on it by that legislation, but shall not extend any activity(ies) whatsoever beyond the statutory duties.
- (b) Not support any divisive 'Diversity, Equity and Inclusion' agenda, which may penalise people without specific protected characteristics.
- (c) Positively promote, encourage and support aspects of Kent life that unite people, rather than those that divide and not promote, encourage and support those that divide people.
- (d) Strongly oppose discrimination of any type and on any grounds against all persons, take steps where appropriate to root it out and shall take firm action whenever it is found.
- (e) Be a meritocracy, where opportunities are open to all persons based on ability, contribution and talent, and shall not pander to any difference, but shall treat all persons with equal care and consideration.
- (f) Be an equal opportunities employer, welcoming and unprejudiced, responsive to the needs of the staff and the requirements of the Service.
- (g) Ensure that Equality Impact Assessments are produced for all policies and key decisions in order to comply with current legislation.
- (h) Not favour 'positive action' ever being taken to give advantage to any group(s) or individual(s).
- (i) Ensure that its promotional and recruitment images and literature are proportionate and representative of the demography of Kent and are lawful so far as is reasonably possible.
- (j) Ask the Chief Executive to review the use of resources in pursuance of the principles identified by resolutions (a) – (i) of this Motion.
- (k) Ask the Chief Executive, subsequent to the above review, to update the Leader of any related governance processes that may be required for policies or strategies so as to reflect the principles set out within this motion as may be appropriate to give effect to resolutions (a) – (h)."

6. Mr Chapman proposed and Mr Paul seconded, that in accordance with section 14.72 of the Constitution, the motion set out in paragraph 5 be immediately put to the vote without further debate.

7. The Chairman put the motion in paragraph 6 to the vote and the voting was as follows.

For (47)

Mr J Baker, Mr B Black, Mr M Brown, Mr C Burwash, Mr A Cecil, Mr P Chamberlain, Mr W Chapman, Mr B Collins, Mr J Defriend, Mr S Dixon, Ms S Emberson, Mr J Eustace, Mr L Evans, Mr P Evans, Mr J Finch, Mr R Ford, Mrs B Fordham, Mrs G Foster, Mr M Fraser Moat, Mr B Fryer, Mr J Henderson, Mr C Hespe, Ms L Kemkaran, Mr A Kibble, Mr P King, Mrs M Lawes, Mr M Logen, Mr R Mayall, Mr T Mole, Miss D Morton, Mr M Mulvihill, Mr P Osborne, Mrs C Palmer, Mr R Palmer, Mr M Paul, Mrs B Porter, Mrs S Roots, Mr T L Shonk, Mr D Sian, Dr G Sturley, Mr A Thorp, Mr D Truder, Mr R Waters, Mr P Webb, Mr N Wibberley, Mrs P Williams and Mr D Wimble.

Against (21)

Mr O Bradshaw, Mr A Brady, Mr M Brice, Mrs M Fothergill, Mr S Heaver, Mr M A J Hood, Mr A J Hook, Mr S Jeffery, Mr J Moreland, Mr M Munday, Ms C Nolan, Mr T Prater, Miss A Randall, Mr A Ricketts, Mr G R Samme, Mr C Sefton, Mr M Sole, Mr P Stepto, Mr R G Streatfeild, Mr P Thomas and Mr R Yates.

Abstain (2)

Mr D Burns and Ms C Russell.

Motion carried.

RESOLVED that the County Council agree that the motion in paragraph 5 be put to the vote without further debate.

8. The Chairman put the motion in paragraph 5 to the vote and the voting was as follows.

For (48)

Mr J Baker, Mr B Black, Mr M Brown, Mr D Burns, Mr C Burwash, Mr A Cecil, Mr P Chamberlain, Mr W Chapman, Mr B Collins, Mr J Defriend, Mr S Dixon, Ms S Emberson, Mr J Eustace, Mr L Evans, Mr P Evans, Mr J Finch, Mr R Ford, Mrs B Fordham, Mrs G Foster, Mr M Fraser Moat, Mr B Fryer, Mr J Henderson, Mr C Hespe, Ms L Kemkaran, Mr A Kibble, Mr P King, Mrs M Lawes, Mr M Logen, Mr R Mayall, Mr T Mole, Miss D Morton, Mr M Mulvihill, Mr P Osborne, Mrs C Palmer, Mr R Palmer, Mr M Paul, Mrs B Porter, Mrs S Roots, Mr T L Shonk, Mr D

Sian, Dr G Sturley, Mr A Thorp, Mr D Truder, Mr R Waters, Mr P Webb, Mr N Wibberley, Mrs P Williams and Mr D Wimble.

Against (18)

Mr A Brady, Mr M Brice, Mr S Heaven, Mr M A J Hood, Mr A J Hook, Mr S Jeffery, Mr J Moreland, Mr M Munday, Ms C Nolan, Mr T Prater, Miss A Randall, Mr A Ricketts, Mr G R Samme, Mr C Sefton, Mr M Sole, Mr P Stepto, Mr R G Streatfeild and Mr R Yates.

Abstain (5)

Mr O Bradshaw, Mrs M Fothergill, Mr H Rayner, Ms C Russell and Mr P Thomas.

Motion Carried.

RESOLVED that Council:

- (a) Complies with the Equality Act 2010 and the General and Specific Duties placed on it by that legislation, but does not extend any activity(ies) whatsoever beyond the statutory duties.
- (b) Not support any divisive 'Diversity, Equity and Inclusion' agenda, which may penalise people without specific protected characteristics.
- (c) Positively promotes, encourages and supports aspects of Kent life that unite people, rather than those that divide and not promote, encourage and support those that divide people.
- (d) Strongly opposes discrimination of any type and on any grounds against all persons, takes steps where appropriate to root it out and shall take firm action whenever it is found.
- (e) Be a meritocracy, where opportunities are open to all persons based on ability, contribution and talent, and shall not pander to any difference, but shall treat all persons with equal care and consideration.
- (f) Be an equal opportunities employer, welcoming and unprejudiced, responsive to the needs of the staff and the requirements of the Service.
- (g) Ensures that Equality Impact Assessments are produced for all policies and key decisions in order to comply with current legislation.
- (h) Not favour 'positive action' ever being taken to give advantage to any group(s) or individual(s).

- (i) Ensures that its promotional and recruitment images and literature are proportionate and representative of the demography of Kent and are lawful so far as is reasonably possible.
- (j) Asks the Chief Executive to review the use of resources in pursuance of the principles identified by resolutions (a) – (i) of this Motion.
- (k) Asks the Chief Executive, subsequent to the above review, to update the Leader of any related governance processes that may be required for policies or strategies so as to reflect the principles set out within this motion as may be appropriate to give effect to resolutions (a) – (h).

9. Mrs Fothergill proposed and Mr Thomas seconded the motion that:

“This Council notes that:

- Kent contains some of the United Kingdom’s most productive agricultural land and that the protection of Best and Most Versatile farmland (Grades 1, 2 and 3a) is essential for food security, the rural economy and the long-term sustainability of the county’s countryside.
- Kent’s agricultural and agrifood sectors make a significant contribution to the county’s economy, employment and national food production.
- Kent County Council is due to approve its Position Statement on Solar Developments through Cabinet Member Decision 26/00026, supporting a balanced approach to renewable energy whilst encouraging solar generation to be prioritised on rooftops, commercial buildings, car parks and brownfield land over greenfield and agricultural land.
- Kent County Council has recognised that the cumulative impact of multiple solar developments and the potential impact on food security require careful consideration.

This Council resolves to request that the Executive;

1. Ensure that Kent County Council’s consultee responses to planning applications for large-scale solar developments consistently reflect the approved Position Statement on Solar Developments, with particular regard to proposals involving Best and Most Versatile agricultural land, significant landscape harm or unacceptable cumulative impacts, and ensuring that infrastructure considerations such as secured grid connectivity are robustly assessed.

2. Continue working collaboratively with District and Borough councils and other relevant bodies to monitor the cumulative impact of large-scale solar development proposals across Kent and provide periodic briefings to Members on emerging applications and trends.
3. Bring forward a report to the relevant Committee by the end of 2026 providing an update on the implementation of the Position Statement on Solar Developments, including any operational, resource or policy considerations arising from Kent County Council's consultee role."

10. Following the debate, the Chairman put the motion in paragraph 9 to the vote and the voting was as follows.

For (7)

Mr O Bradshaw, Mr R Ford, Mrs M Fothergill, Miss A Randall, Mr H Rayner, Ms C Russell and Mr P Thomas.

Against (54)

Mr J Baker, Mr M Brice, Mr M Brown, Mr C Burwash, Mr A Cecil, Mr P Chamberlain, Mr W Chapman, Mr B Collins, Mr J Defriend, Mr S Dixon, Ms S Emberson, Mr J Eustace, Mr L Evans, Mr P Evans, Mr J Finch, Mrs B Fordham, Mrs G Foster, Mr M Fraser Moat, Mr B Fryer, Mr J Henderson, Mr C Hespe, Mr A J Hook, Ms L Kemkaran, Mr A Kibble, Mr P King, Mrs M Lawes, Mr M Logen, Mr R Mayall, Mr T Mole, Mr J Moreland, Miss D Morton, Mr M Mulvihill, Mr M Munday, Mr P Osborne, Mrs C Palmer, Mr R Palmer, Mr M Paul, Mrs B Porter, Mr A Ricketts, Mrs S Roots, Mr G R Samme, Mr C Sefton, Mr T L Shonk, Mr D Sian, Mr M Sole, Mr R G Streatfeild, Dr G Sturley, Mr A Thorp, Mr D Truder, Mr R Waters, Mr P Webb, Mr N Wibberley, Mrs P Williams and Mr D Wimble.

Abstain (10)

Mr B Black, Mr A Brady, Mr D Burns, Mr S Heaver, Mr M A J Hood, Mr S Jeffery, Ms C Nolan, Mr T Prater, Mr P Stepto and Mr R Yates.

Motion lost.

11. Mr Streatfeild proposed and Mr Hook seconded the motion that:

"The County Council resolves to call on the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills to:

1. Review the implementation of the council's post-16 SEND transport policy to ensure it supports every post-16 young person with SEND who needs help to get to school safely receives the support that they need.
2. Collate and report on information to better assess and explain the true impact of KCC's post-16 transport policy, including:

- a. Among young people who applied for more than a PTB but were refused, how many of them are safely attending education.
 - b. Whether any shortfall between the PTB and the actual cost of transport to families is affordable is for the affected families.
3. Review the appeal and right of review arrangements for families who can show that the fixed Personal Transport budget does not meet the reasonable cost of safe transport to make it as clear and simple as possible.
4. Review all post-16 SEND transport decisions already made under the current model, in relation to the application and impact of the existing policy and report the findings to the relevant Cabinet Committee.
5. Report back to the Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee, no later than 17 November 2026, on the action taken on points above."

12. Mrs Fordham proposed and Mr Evans seconded the following amendment to the motion set out in paragraph 11:

"The County Council resolves to call on the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills to:

1. Review the implementation of the council's post-16 ~~to ensure it supports every post-16 young person with SEND who needs help to get to school safely receives the support that they need~~ SEND transport policy ~~following the first term of operation, to ensure that eligible post-16 young people with SEND receive appropriate support to access education.~~
2. Collate and report on information to better assess and explain the true impact of KCC's post-16 transport policy ~~following the first term of operation~~, including:
 - a. Among young people who applied for ~~more than a PTB but were refused, how many of them are safely attending education and were offered a Personal Transport Budget, but subsequently sought a review or appeal of a transport decision, information on attendance outcomes, where available.~~
 - b. Whether any ~~shortfall between the PTB and the actual cost of transport to families is affordable is for the affected families~~ concerns relating to Personal Transport Budgets have been raised by affected families, and how individual circumstances have been considered through the Council's ~~review and appeals processes.~~
3. Review the appeal and right of review arrangements for families who can show that the fixed Personal Transport budget does not meet the reasonable cost of safe transport to make it as clear and simple as possible.
4. Review all post-16 SEND transport decisions already made under the current model, in relation to the application and impact of the existing policy and report the findings ~~including any emerging themes arising from reviews and appeals~~, to the relevant Cabinet Committee.

5. Report back to the Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee, no later than 17 November 2026, on the action taken on points above.”

13. Following the debate, the Chairman put the amendment set out in paragraph 12 to the vote and the voting was as follows:

For (46)

Mr J Baker, Mr M Brown, Mr C Burwash, Mr A Cecil, Mr P Chamberlain, Mr W Chapman, Mr B Collins, Mr J Defriend, Mr S Dixon, Ms S Emberson, Mr J Eustace, Mr L Evans, Mr P Evans, Mr J Finch, Mrs B Fordham, Mrs G Foster, Mr M Fraser Moat, Mr B Fryer, Mr J Henderson, Mr C Hespe, Ms L Kemkaran, Mr A Kibble, Mr P King, Mrs M Lawes, Mr M Logen, Mr R Mayall, Mr T Mole, Miss D Morton, Mr M Mulvihill, Mr P Osborne, Mrs C Palmer, Mr R Palmer, Mr M Paul, Mrs B Porter, Mr H Rayner, Mrs S Roots, Mr T L Shonk, Mr D Sian, Dr G Sturley, Mr A Thorp, Mr D Truder, Mr R Waters, Mr P Webb, Mr N Wibberley, Mrs P Williams and Mr D Wimble.

Against (22)

Mr B Black, Mr O Bradshaw, Mr A Brady, Mr M Brice, Mr D Burns, Mr R Ford, Mr S Heaver, Mr M A J Hood, Mr A J Hook, Mr S Jeffery, Mr J Moreland, Mr M Munday, Ms C Nolan, Miss A Randall, Mr A Ricketts, Mr G R Samme, Mr C Sefton, Mr M Sole, Mr P Stepto, Mr R G Streatfeild, Mr P Thomas and Mr R Yates.

Abstain (2)

Mrs M Fothergill and Mr T Prater.

Amendment carried.

14. The Chairman put the substantive motion set out in paragraph 12 to the vote and the voting was as follows:

For (70)

Mr J Baker, Mr B Black, Mr O Bradshaw, Mr A Brady, Mr M Brice, Mr M Brown, Mr D Burns, Mr C Burwash, Mr A Cecil, Mr P Chamberlain, Mr W Chapman, Mr B Collins, Mr J Defriend, Mr S Dixon, Ms S Emberson, Mr J Eustace, Mr L Evans, Mr P Evans, Mr J Finch, Mr R Ford, Mrs B Fordham, Mrs G Foster, Mrs M Fothergill, Mr M Fraser Moat, Mr B Fryer, Mr S Heaver, Mr J Henderson, Mr C Hespe, Mr M A J Hood, Mr A J Hook, Mr S Jeffery, Ms L Kemkaran, Mr A Kibble, Mr P King, Mrs M Lawes, Mr M Logen, Mr R Mayall, Mr T Mole, Mr J Moreland, Miss D Morton, Mr M Mulvihill, Mr M Munday, Ms C Nolan, Mr P Osborne, Mrs C Palmer, Mr R Palmer, Mr M Paul, Mrs B Porter, Mr T Prater, Miss A Randall, Mr H Rayner, Mr A Ricketts, Mrs S Roots, Mr G R Samme, Mr C Sefton, Mr T L Shonk, Mr D Sian, Mr M Sole, Mr P Stepto, Mr R G Streatfeild, Dr G Sturley, Mr P Thomas, Mr A Thorp, Mr D Truder, Mr R Waters, Mr P Webb, Mr N Wibberley, Mrs P Williams, Mr D Wimble and Mr R Yates.

Against (0)

Abstain (0)

Substantive motion carried.

RESOLVED that Council resolves to call on the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills to:

1. Review the implementation of the council's post-16 SEND transport policy following the first term of operation, to ensure that eligible post-16 young people with SEND receive appropriate support to access education.
2. Collate and report on information to better assess and explain the true impact of KCC's post-16 transport policy following the first term of operation, including:
 - a. Among young people who applied for and were offered a Personal Transport Budget, but subsequently sought a review or appeal of a transport decision, information on attendance outcomes, where available.
 - b. Whether any concerns relating to Personal Transport Budgets have been raised by affected families, and how individual circumstances have been considered through the Council's review and appeals processes.
3. Review the appeal and right of review arrangements for families who can show that the fixed Personal Transport budget does not meet the reasonable cost of safe transport to make it as clear and simple as possible.
4. Review all post-16 SEND transport decisions already made under the current model, in relation to the application and impact of the existing policy and report the findings including any emerging themes arising from reviews and appeals, to the relevant Cabinet Committee.
5. Report back to the Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee, no later than 17 November 2026, on the action taken on points above.

95. National Anthem
(Item 14)

Members were invited to join in the singing of the National Anthem. In course of the Item, the Chairman directed some Members to cease disrupting the meeting.

After the National Anthem concluded as the final agenda item, the Chairman closed the meeting.

From: David Wimble, Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Special Projects

To: 17 September 2026, County Council

Subject: Planning Applications Committee Terms of Reference: Proposed Revisions

Status: Unrestricted

Past pathway of report: Selection and Member Services Committee, 8 September 2026

1. Introduction

- a) The Planning and Infrastructure Act 2025 gave the Secretary of State the power to introduce a national scheme of delegation for planning decisions and to control the size and composition of planning committees.
- b) This power has now been given effect through The Town and Country Planning (Discharge of Local Planning Authority Functions (England) Regulations 2026. As set out in the Explanatory Memorandum to this document, the purpose of introducing the changes is as follows:
 - a. “The aim is to ensure that there is greater clarity and consistency about the role of planning committees in planning decision making. It is intended to enable planning committees to work more effectively by allowing them to focus on the key development proposals that matter in their area, enabling other, often more minor and technical, decisions to be made by planning officers.”¹
- c) These changes to the law are coming into effect on 31 October 2026. The Council therefore needs to revise the Terms of Reference of the Planning Applications Committee to be compliant with the legislation and to ensure planning decisions can continue to be taken lawfully.
- d) In addition, on 18 December 2025, County Council agreed that the Planning Applications Committee would take on the functions of the Regulation Committee. This change has been fully incorporated into the proposed revisions to the terms of reference. As a consequence, it is also being proposed that the Committee be renamed as the Planning and Regulation Committee.

¹ Section 4.1, [The Town and Country Planning \(Discharge of Local Planning Authority Functions\) \(England\) Regulations 2026](#)

- e) On 8 September 2026, the Selection and Member Services Committee agreed to recommend to full Council that the changes proposed in the paper be accepted and the Constitution updated.

2. National Scheme of Delegation

- a) The national scheme of delegation for planning applications as set out in the regulations, and supported by statutory guidance² essentially divides planning applications into two 'schedules'.
 - a. Schedule 1 sets out applications that must always be determined by Officers.
 - b. Schedule 2 sets out applications which may be determined by the Committee, but only once a statutory gateway test has been applied and satisfied.
- b) The only exception is where 'own-interest' applications are concerned and where Kent County Council is connected to the application in specified ways. Here additional, tests must be satisfied before the Committee may consider the application. These relate to transparency and propriety. Detail of the types of applications that fall within the proposed Schedules is set out in Appendix 2.
- c) This is a significant shift in how local authority planning delegations are structured. As such, the changes to the terms of reference of the Committee are supported by a new section and the planning scheme of delegation has been added to the Appendix to the Constitution. Where the new scheme of delegation has superseded existing delegations in the Appendix, these have been deleted or amended as necessary.
- d) The Appendix also sets out who the 'Nominated Officer' will be who is able to take decisions on different kinds of applications. Where there needs to be a decision as to whether a schedule 2 or own-interest application will go to the Committee for determination, under the regulations this decision needs the agreement of the relevant Nominated Officer and a Nominated Member. It is being recommended that the Chair of the Committee be the Nominated Member, with the Vice-Chair undertaking the role where the Chair is unavailable. For the purposes of the Regulations, the Nominated Officer is the Head of Planning Applications unless stated otherwise.
- e) In order for there to be clarity and consistency as to how planning applications are assessed, and to ensure that applications are not held up unduly, there is provision for a triage process to be established. This will allow effective use of resources and Member's time and focus the Committee on the most significant proposals. The principle of a triage process is covered in the proposed terms of reference, and further information will be presented to the proposed Planning and Regulation Committee in due course.
- f) In summary the triage process is intended to ensure that routine, technical, and applications where all concerns have been resolved can be determined efficiently under delegated powers, while preserving a clear route to the Planning and Regulation Committee where an application raises significant

² [Planning Committees and the National Scheme of Delegation of Planning Functions: Guidance for local planning authorities in England - GOV.UK](#)

unresolved issues or where Committee consideration is justified in the interests of transparency and public accountability.

- g) Authorities are expected to keep records of referral decisions and report them regularly to the planning committee. This is also reflected in the proposed terms of reference.

3. Membership

- a) As mentioned above, the Secretary of State can set a maximum number of Members on planning committees. This has been set at 13. There are currently 15 Members on the Planning Applications Committee so this needs to be amended. Relevant changes will incorporate any necessary committee proportionality review.

4. Regulation Committee Functions

- a) Broadly speaking, the majority of the functions of the Regulation Committee have been managed through delegated arrangements. This will continue as set out in section 17.40 and following of the proposed terms of reference.
- b) The exception is around planning enforcement, which sat with the Regulation Committee itself. This function will move to the Planning Applications Committee and is set out at 17.29d of the proposed terms of reference.
- c) To help people understand the bringing together of these functions, it is also being recommended that the Committee name be changed to Planning and Regulation Committee.

5. Next Steps

- a) On the recommendation of the Selection and Member Services Committee, Full Council is being asked to agree to the proposed revision of the terms of reference of the Planning Applications Committee, as well as a name change and applicable updates to the Appendix to the Constitution.
- b) Because the changes to the legislation come into force on 31 October 2026, any changes to the Constitution will not be made until this time.

6. Recommendation

County Council asked to:

- a. Agree that the proposed amendments to the Planning Applications Committee Terms of Reference be approved.
- b. Agree that the name of the Planning Applications Committee be amended to Planning and Regulation Committee.
- c. Agree that the proposed amendments to the Appendix to the Constitution incorporating the new planning scheme of delegation be approved.
- d. Delegate to the Monitoring Officer the implementation of these changes on 31 October 2026.

7. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Proposed revised terms of reference for the Planning Applications Committee / Planning and Regulation Committee

Appendix 2 – Proposed revisions to the Appendix to the Constitution incorporating the new planning scheme of delegation.

8. Background Documents

The Town and Country Planning (Discharge of Local Planning Authority Functions (England) Regulations 2026 -

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2026/854/contents/made>

Planning Committees and the National Scheme of Delegation of Planning Functions: Guidance for local planning authorities in England -

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/planning-committees-and-the-national-scheme-of-delegation-of-planning-functions-guidance-for-local-planning-authorities-in-england/planning-committees-and-the-national-scheme-of-delegation-of-planning-functions-guidance-for-local-planning-authorities-in-england>

9. Report Author(s) and Relevant Director

Petra Der Man, Monitoring Officer

Petra.derman@kent.gov.uk

Sharon Thompson, Head of Planning Applications

sharon.thompson@kent.gov.uk

Tristan Godfrey, Senior Governance Manager

tristan.godfrey@kent.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Planning and Regulation Committee

(Proposed new terms of reference, incorporating former Regulation Committee functions and updated committee name)

Membership

17.25 Membership: 13 Members

17.26 The membership shall not at any time exceed the limit set by The Town and Country Planning (Discharge of Local Planning Authority Functions) (England) Regulations 2026.

17.27 This limit referred to in 17.26 only applies to the Committee in carrying out its functions under the same regulations.

17.28 Political Groups may only nominate Members as regular Members or as substitutes on the Planning and Regulation Committee if they have had training in the relevant procedures.

17.29 This Committee is responsible for the following planning functions which will be performed in line with the relevant legislation and having regard for any relevant guidance issued by the Secretary of State:

- a. Exercising delegated authority for the determination of planning applications and related matters in schedule 2 of the planning scheme of delegation set out in the Appendix to the Constitution. These functions will be exercised in accordance with 17.31 to 17.34 below.
- b. Own-interest applications in accordance with 17.35 to 17.37 below.
- c. The Committee will also consider or determine any other planning matter not listed at a-b above that are referred to it by the relevant Nominated Officer or Officers named in the Appendix to the Constitution.
- d. Exercising the Council's functions in relation to the enforcement of the control of development under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and related regulations and statutory instruments.

17.30 The votes of each individual Member of the Planning Applications Committee (whether for, against, or in abstention) will be recorded whenever the Committee votes against the Nominated Officer's recommendation for permission or refusal of a planning application, together with the grounds and reasons for overturning the recommendation.

Planning Scheme of Delegation

17.31 The planning scheme of delegation is set out in the Appendix and is managed through these terms of reference. The scheme contains the following:

- a. Schedule 1 sets out those applications reserved by The Town and Country Planning (Discharge of Local Planning Authority Functions) (England) Regulations 2026 to be determined by the Nominated Officer or Officers, unless 17.35 to 17.37 applies.
- b. Schedule 2 sets out those applications reserved under these same regulations which may be considered by the Committee after the procedure set out in 17.33 to 17.36 has been followed.

17.32 For the purposes of matters relating to schedule 2, the Nominated Member is the Chair of the Committee, with the Vice-Chair able to act as Nominated Member when the Chair is unavailable or has a conflict of interest.

17.33 Schedule 2 applications will only be considered by the Committee once the following procedure has been undertaken, except where 17.35 to 17.37 relating to own-interest applications apply:

- a. A Gateway Triage Process has been completed. The Gateway Triage Process will be agreed by the Head of Planning Applications following consultation with the Chair.
 - i. Those applications that pass the Gateway Triage Process move on to the next stage (17.33b). All others will be determined by the Nominated Officer.
- b. The Nominated Member and Nominated Officer agree that determination by the Committee is necessary because in their view it raises either of the following as set out in The Town and Country Planning (Discharge of Local Planning Authority Functions) (England) Regulations 2026:
 - i. one or more issues of economic, social or environmental significance to the local area, or
 - ii. one or more significant planning matters having regard to the development plan and any other material considerations.

17.34 In all cases where the Nominated Member and Nominated Officer do not agree as required in 17.33(b), the decision is to be taken by the Nominated Officer.

17.35 Schedule 1 and 2 applications are considered own-interest applications where they meet the following criteria:

- a. Those that are made (whether or not jointly with any other person) by or on behalf of:
 - i. that authority,
 - ii. a member of that authority, or
 - iii. an officer of that authority, or

- b. Those applications that, in the view of both the Nominated Member and the Nominated Officer, the authority or any of its Members or Officers otherwise has an interest in the application.

17.36 Own interest applications, as defined by 17.35, will only be considered by the Committee where the following apply:

- a. A Gateway Triage Process has been completed (which will include a transparency and propriety review). The Gateway Triage Process will be agreed by the Head of Planning Applications following consultation with the Chair.
 - i. Those applications that pass the Gateway Triage Process move on to the next stage (17.36b). All others will be determined by the Nominated Officer.
- b. The Nominated Member and Nominated Officer agree that determination by the Committee is necessary. If the application is listed in Schedule 2, it may only be considered by the Committee where, in the view of the Nominated Officer and Nominated Member, it raises:
 - i. one or more issues of economic, social or environmental significance to the local area, or
 - ii. one or more significant planning matters having regard to the development plan and any other material considerations.

17.37 In all cases where the Nominated Member and Nominated Officer do not agree to refer as required in 17.36(b), the decision is to be taken by the Nominated Officer

17.38 A record will be kept of the cases the Nominated Officer and Nominated Member have considered for referral to the Committee in accordance with 17.30 to 17.37, the outcome of their consideration and the reasons for their decision. They will be reported to the Committee on a regular basis.

17.39 The Planning and Regulation Committee, and any Panel carrying out regulatory functions under delegation, may permit members of the public interested in their decisions to address their meetings, in accordance with agreed procedures and adhering to the principles of decision-making contained in section 8.5 of the Constitution.

Regulatory Functions – Delegation Arrangements

17.40 The Committee is also responsible for the following specific regulatory functions on behalf of the Council. These are carried out through the following scheme of delegation and not by the Committee itself.

- (a) Appeals against refusal to approve premises for the solemnisation of marriages (or the attachment of a condition to such an approval).

- i. These are delegated to the Planning and Regulation Committee Member Panel, see 17.41.
 - (b) All Commons Registration functions under Part 1 of the Commons Act 2006 and the Commons Registration (England) Regulations 2008.
 - i. These are delegated to the Planning and Regulation Committee Member Panel, see 17.41.
 - (c) The creation, stopping up, diversion of any footpath or bridleway or restricted byway or the reclassification of any public path where substantive objection has been raised or a Political Group or the Local Member requests.
 - i. These are delegated to the Planning and Regulation Committee Member Panel, see 17.41.
 - (d) Appeals by pupils and parents against school-related decisions that are not considered by an external appeal Committee, including transport, education awards and religious education.
 - i. Such appeals to be dealt with by ad hoc Panels of Members chaired by and including at least one member of the Planning and Regulation Committee. All Panel members must have received appropriate training before taking up their positions.
 - (e) The discharge of persons who are subject to guardianship, pursuant to Section 23 of the Mental Health Act 1983 on the recommendation of the Director Adult Social Care and Health.
 - i. This is delegated to the Mental Health Guardianship Sub-Committee. The sub-committee must consist of at least three Members, one of whom must be a member of the Planning and Regulation Committee and the others to be members of the Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee (who must not also be members of an NHS Foundation Trust). The decision to discharge must be agreed by at least three Members or where there are more Members on the Sub-Committee by a majority of the Panel.
- 17.41 The Planning and Regulation Committee Member Panel, established to carry out the delegated functions of 17.40 a-c are to consist of 5 Members. A minimum of 1 member must also be a Member of the Planning and Regulation Committee. All Panel members must have received appropriate training before taking up their positions.

17.42 For the removal of doubt, section 17.28 only applies to Members who participate in these delegated arrangements if they are also members of the Planning and Regulation Committee.

This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix 2

Proposed revisions to the Appendix to the Constitution incorporating the addition of a Planning Scheme of Delegation

The Delegation Table

Contents:

- Planning Scheme of Delegation (Pages1-5).
- Functions Delegated by the Council to Officers and Committees (Pages 5-274-29).

Planning Scheme of Delegation

Made in accordance with: The Town and Country Planning (Discharge of Local Planning Authority Functions) (England) Regulations 2026

Please note – this scheme must be read alongside the Planning and Regulation Committee terms of reference set out in the Constitution, sections 17.25-42.

Schedule 1 – Applications to be determined by the Nominated Officer unless referred as an own-interest application under sections 17.35-36 of the Constitution.

Ref.	Application Type (See Note 1, below)	Nominated Officer (See Note 2 below)
1.	<u>An application made under section 17(1) of the Land Compensation Act 1961 (certificates of appropriate alternative development).</u>	<u>Head of Planning Applications</u>
2	<u>An application made under section 26H(1) of the Listed Buildings Act (certificate of lawfulness of proposed works).</u>	<u>Not applicable</u>
3	<u>A householder application.</u>	<u>Not applicable</u>
4	<u>A minor commercial application</u>	<u>Head of Planning Applications</u>
5	<u>A minor residential application.</u>	<u>Not applicable</u>
6	<u>An application for permission in principle.</u>	<u>Head of Planning Applications</u>
7	<u>An application made under section 73(1) of TCPA 1990 (application to develop land without compliance with conditions previously attached) in respect of which the original planning permission was a Schedule 1 planning permission.</u>	<u>Head of Planning Applications</u>

Formatted: Underline

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 12 pt, Bold, Complex Script Font: Arial, 12 pt

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 12 pt, Bold, Complex Script Font: Arial, 12 pt

Formatted Table

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

	<u>In this paragraph—</u> <u>“original planning permission” means a planning permission which is the first in a sequence of two or more planning permissions, where the second and any subsequent planning permissions were granted under section 73(1) of TCPA 1990;</u> <u>“Schedule 1 planning permission” means a planning permission granted pursuant to an application which is of a kind specified in this Schedule.</u>	
<u>8</u>	<u>An application made under section 96A(4) of TCPA 1990 (non-material changes to planning permission or permission in principle).</u>	<u>Head of Planning Applications</u>
<u>9</u>	<u>In respect of a planning obligation that the authority concerned considers is connected with a Schedule 1 approval—</u> <u>(a) a request to agree to modify or discharge that obligation under section 106A(1)(a) of TCPA 1990 (modification and discharge of planning obligations);</u> <u>(b) an application to modify or discharge that obligation under section 106A(3) of TCPA 1990 (modification and discharge of planning obligations).</u> <u>In this paragraph, ‘Schedule 1 approval’ means any permission, agreement, consent or approval (other than a planning obligation) pursuant to an application which is of a kind specified in this Schedule</u>	<u>Director of Growth and Communities or</u> <u>Director of Infrastructure or</u> <u>Director of Highways and Transportation or</u> <u>Director Environment and Circular Economy</u>
<u>10</u>	<u>An application made under section 191(1) of TCPA 1990 (certificate of lawfulness of existing use or development).</u>	<u>Head of Planning Applications</u>
<u>11</u>	<u>An application made under section 192(1) of TCPA 1990 (certificate of lawfulness of proposed use or development).</u>	<u>Head of Planning Applications</u>
<u>12</u>	<u>The submission of a biodiversity gain plan under paragraph 13(2)(a) of Schedule 7A to TCPA 1990.</u>	<u>Head of Planning Applications</u>
<u>13</u>	<u>A reserved matters approval application in respect of an outline planning permission other than a large outline permission.</u>	<u>Head of Planning Applications</u>
<u>14</u>	<u>An application made under article 27(1) of DMPO (applications made under a planning condition).</u>	<u>Head of Planning Applications</u>

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

<u>15.</u>	<u>An application pursuant to provision in Schedule 2 to the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 for—</u> <u>(a) prior approval, or</u> <u>(b) determination as to whether prior approval is required.</u>	<u>Head of Planning Applications</u>
------------	---	--------------------------------------

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Note 1: Schedule 1 refers directly to schedule 1 of The Town and Country Planning (Discharge of Local Planning Authority Functions) (England) Regulations 2026. Applications which would otherwise fall under Schedule 1, will fall within Schedule 2 where:

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: 12 pt, Not Bold, Complex Script Font: 12 pt, Bold

- a local authority considers that the application for planning permission is connected to a Schedule 2 application for listed building consent or for the variation or discharge of a condition on a listed building consent
- the application is made under section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Bold

Note 2: Where the Nominated Officer is listed as 'Not Applicable', this refers to applications which are not listed in County Council functions, but are listed to demonstrate compliance with the regulations.

Schedule 2 – Applications which may be determined by the Nominated Officer or Planning and Regulation Committee in accordance with the Planning and Regulation Committee Terms of Reference

<u>Ref</u>	<u>Application Type (see Note 1)</u>	<u>Nominated Officer (see Note 2 below)</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>An application for listed building consent made under section 10(1) of the Listed Buildings Act (making of applications for listed building consent).</u>	<u>Not Applicable</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>An application made under section 19(1) of the Listed Buildings Act (variation or discharge of conditions of listed building consent).</u>	<u>Not Applicable</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>An application for planning permission that the authority concerned considers is connected with an application of a kind specified in the following application types:</u> <u>a. An application for listed building consent made under section 10(1) of the Listed Buildings Act (making of applications for listed building consent).</u>	<u>Not Applicable</u>

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 12 pt, Bold, Complex Script Font: Arial, 12 pt

Formatted: Font: Bold, Complex Script Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Bold, Complex Script Font: Not Bold

Formatted Table

Formatted: Font: Bold, Complex Script Font: Not Bold

Formatted Table

	<u>b. An application made under section 19(1) of the Listed Buildings Act (variation or discharge of conditions of listed building consent).</u>	
<u>4</u>	<u>An application for planning permission that is not—</u> <u>(a) a householder application,</u> <u>(b) a minor commercial application, or</u> <u>(c) a minor residential application.</u>	<u>Head of Planning Applications</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>An application made under section 73(1) of TCPA 1990 (application to develop land without compliance with conditions previously attached) in respect of which the original planning permission was a Schedule 2 planning permission.</u> <u>In this paragraph—</u> <u>“original planning permission” means a planning permission which is the first in a sequence of two or more planning permissions, where the second and any subsequent planning permissions were granted under section 73(1) of TCPA 1990;</u> <u>“Schedule 2 planning permission” means a planning permission granted pursuant to an application which is of a kind specified in this Schedule.</u>	<u>Head of Planning Applications</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>An application made under section 73A(1) of TCPA 1990 (planning permission for development already carried out)</u>	<u>Head of Planning Applications</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>In respect of a planning obligation that the authority concerned considers is connected with a Schedule 2 approval—</u> <u>(a) a request to agree to modify or discharge that obligation under section 106A(1)(a) of TCPA 1990 (modification and discharge of planning obligations);</u> <u>(b) an application to modify or discharge that obligation under section 106A(3) of TCPA 1990 (modification and discharge of planning obligations).</u> <u>In this paragraph, “Schedule 2 approval” means any permission, agreement, consent or approval (other than a planning obligation) pursuant to an application which is of a kind specified in Schedule 2.</u>	<u>Director of Growth and Communities or</u> <u>Director of Infrastructure or</u> <u>Director of Highways and Transportation</u> <u>Director Environment and Circular Economy or</u> <u>Head of Planning Applications</u>

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 12 pt, Complex Script Font: Arial, 12 pt, Bold

<u>8</u>	<u>A reserved matters approval application in respect of a large outline permission.</u>	<u>Head of Planning Applications</u>
<u>9</u>	<u>An application made under regulation 9(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (England) Regulations 2007 (application for express consent to display advertisement) (b).</u>	<u>Not Applicable</u>
<u>10</u>	<u>An application made under regulation 16(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012 (application for consent under tree preservation order) (c).</u>	<u>Not Applicable</u>

Note 1: Schedule 2 refers directly to schedule 2 of The Town and Country Planning (Discharge of Local Planning Authority Functions) (England) Regulations 2026.

Note 2: Where the Nominated Officer is listed as 'Not Applicable', this refers to applications which are not listed in County Council functions, but are listed to demonstrate compliance with the regulations.

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 12 pt, Bold, Complex Script
Font: Arial, 12 pt

Formatted: Normal

Functions Delegated by the Council to Officers and Committees (Schedule of Council Functions)

FUNCTION	PROVISION OF ACT OR STATUTORY INSTRUMENT	RESPONSIBILITY/ DECISION MAKER
-----------------	---	---------------------------------------

A. Functions relating to town and country planning and development management amongst others, including the following:

1. Power to determine application for planning permission	Sections 70(1)(a) and (b) and 72 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990	Planning Applications Committee— The determination of any application not delegated to officers or which relate to land or buildings managed by the Director of Growth and Communities or to which there are material planning objections—except where representations are received that could otherwise be considered material planning objections but in the opinion of the Head of Planning Applications are not relevant in a particular case. Director of Growth and Communities—set out in notes 1 & 2 below
--	---	--

2. Power to determine applications to develop land without compliance with conditions previously attached	Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990	As A1
3. Power to grant planning permission for development already carried out	Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990	As A1

4. Power to determine application for planning permission made by a local authority, alone or jointly with another person	Section 316 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and the Town and Country Planning General Regulations 1992 (S.I. 1992/1492) (and subsequent amendments and regulations). Sections 69, 91, 92 and 96A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/595) (as amended).	As A1.
<u>15.</u> Power to decline to determine application for planning permission	Section 70A, 70B & 70C of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990	Director of Growth and Communities

Formatted: Not Highlight

<u>26.</u> Duties relating to the making of determinations of planning applications	Sections 69, 91, 92 and 96A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/595) (as amended).	Director of Growth and Communities
---	---	------------------------------------

Formatted: Not Highlight

<u>37.</u> Power to make determinations, give approvals and agree certain other matters relating to the exercise of permitted development rights	The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (2015/596) (as amended).	Director of Growth and Communities
<u>48.</u> Power to enter into agreement regulating development or use of land	Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972	Director of Growth and Communities or Director of Infrastructure or Director of Highways and Transportation Director Environment and Circular Economy
9. Power to issue a certificate of existing or proposed lawful use or development	Sections 101(4) and 102(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990	Director of Growth and Communities
<u>510.</u> Power to serve a completion notice	Section 94(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990	Director of Growth and Communities

Formatted: Not Highlight

Formatted: Not Highlight

Formatted: Not Highlight

<u>644</u> . Power to authorise entry onto land	Section 196A and 196B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990	Regulation Committee Planning and Regulation Committee - the carrying out of enforcement action, initiation of Stop Notices or any other form of action which may give rise to liability to pay compensation. Director of Growth and Communities - to exercise all other powers delegated to the committee by the Council in relation to the enforcement of the control of development under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and related statutory instruments.
<u>742</u> . Power to require the discontinuance of a use of land	Section 102 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990	As A <u>644</u>
<u>843</u> . Power to serve a planning contravention notice, temporary stop notice, breach of condition notice, or stop notice	Sections 171C, 171E, 187A and 183(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990	As A <u>644</u>
<u>944</u> . Power to issue an enforcement notice and power to vary and withdraw an enforcement notice	Section 172 and 173A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990	As A <u>644</u>
<u>105</u> . Power to apply for an injunction restraining a breach of planning control	Section 187B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990	As A <u>644</u>
<u>116</u> . The obtaining of information as to interests in land	Section 330 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990	As A <u>644</u>

Formatted Table

Formatted: Not Highlight

Formatted: Not Highlight

Formatted: Not Highlight

127. Duty to determine conditions to which old mining permissions, relevant planning permissions relating to dormant sites or active Phase I or II sites, or mineral permissions relating to mining sites, as the case may be, are to be subject	Paragraph 2(6)(a) of Schedule 2 to the Planning and Compensation Act 1991, paragraph 9(6) of Schedule 13 to the Environment Act 1995 and paragraph 6(5) of Schedule 14 to that Act	Director of Growth and Communities
138. Power to determine a screening or scoping opinion	Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011 as consolidated and amended by SI 2017/571 and subsequent amendments and regulations.	Director of Growth and Communities

Formatted: Not Highlight

Formatted: Not Highlight

Formatted: Highlight

149. Power to determine an Appropriate Assessment application	The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (SI 2010/490) as consolidated and amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (SI 2017/1012) and as the later is amended by SI 2018/1307).	Director of Growth and Communities - to determine Appropriate Assessment applications where Natural England has advised the Council that it is satisfied that the proposal will not affect the conservation objectives of the designated site or that the mitigation measures proposed are acceptable
---	---	---

Formatted: Not Highlight

1520. Power to act as a statutory planning consultee for major development with surface water drainage as the Lead Local Flood Authority.	Para. (ze) of Schedule 4 of The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (SI 2015/595).	Director of Growth and Communities
---	--	------------------------------------

Note 1 – The following delegation to the Head of Planning Applications Group was agreed by the Planning and Regulation Committee on 18 November 2015:

To refuse applications and to not approve details submitted under conditions where such submissions meet any of the following criteria:

- The proposal does not accord with the Development Plan and there are no overriding material reasons for granting permission or approving the details;

- Insufficient detail or information has been submitted to:

- (i) enable proper consideration of an application for planning permission; or

- (ii) satisfy the terms of a condition or conditions, in the case of an application to discharge a condition or conditions; or

- (iii) enable technical issues raised by consultees to be resolved.

either to determine an application for permission or to discharge a condition or conditions;

- The applicant has not agreed a reasonable extension of time to otherwise allow, within the required timescale for:

- (i) proper consideration of any further information submitted; or

- (ii) completion of a legal agreement; or

- (iii) resolution of any other outstanding matters;

- The applicant has failed to complete a legal agreement upon which a resolution by the Planning and Regulation Committee to grant planning permission is dependent within 6 months of such a resolution being made;

- The application is retrospective and is aimed at rectifying a breach of planning control against which Enforcement proceedings including Court prosecutions have already been instigated;

- The application is a repeat application within 12 months of a previous refusal or withdrawal and does not address the grounds of refusal or concerns raised by the earlier proposal.

Such decisions in relation to Note 1 above will only be issued following consultation with the Chair, Vice Chair and Lead Spokesperson for each Political Group prior to a decision being taken unless reasons of urgency make this impracticable. The consultation period shall usually be 2 working days.

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Not Bold

Any decision taken in respect of Note 1 above is to be reported to the Committee, including the reason that (exceptionally) it had been impractical to consult the Chair, Vice-Chair and Lead Spokesperson for each Political Group.

(NB: when the delegation was granted, it was the Planning Applications Committee. Name of Committee updated as needed).

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Complex Script Font: Not Bold

Formatted: English (United Kingdom)

B. Regulatory Services Functions

1. Duty to keep list of persons entitled to sell non-medicinal poisons	Sections 3, 5, 6 and 11 of the Poisons Act 1972	Director of Growth and Communities
2. Power to register animal trainers and exhibitors	Section 1 of the Performing Animals (Regulation) Act 1925	Director of Growth and Communities
3. Power to license the employment of children	Part II of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933, bylaws made under that Part, and Part II of the Children and Young Persons Act 1963	Director of Growth and Communities
4. Power to approve premises for the solemnisation of marriages	Section 46A of the Marriage Act 1949 and the Marriages (Approved Premises) Regulations 1995 (S.I. 1995/510) as amended by SI 2003/1961, and The Marriages and Civil Partnerships (Approved Premises) Regulations 2005 (SI 2005/3168) and amended by SIs 2011/2661 and SI 2013/2294.	Corporate Director Growth, Environment and Transport Appeals for refusals to be considered by the Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u>

5. Powers to license the sale and collection of pigs	Articles 13 and 14 of the Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) Order 2011 (SI 2011/2154) and related regulations.	Director of Growth and Communities
6. All Commons Registration functions	Part 1 of the Commons Act 2006 and Commons Registration (England) Regulations 2008 (SI 2008/1961).	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u>

C. Functions Relating to Highways

1. Power to grant a street works licence	Section 50 of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991	Director of Highways and Transportation
2. Power to permit deposit of builder's skip on highway	Section 139 of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Highways and Transportation
3. Power to license planting, retention and maintenance of trees etc. in part of highway	Section 142 of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Highways and Transportation

4. Power to license works in relation to buildings etc. that obstruct the highway (inc. scaffolding).	Section 169 of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Highways and Transportation
5. Power to consent to temporary deposits or excavations in streets	Section 171 of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Highways and Transportation
6. Power to dispense with obligation to erect hoarding or fence	Section 172 of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Highways and Transportation

7. Power to enter into oversailing licences	Section 177 of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Highways and Transportation
8. Power to restrict the placing of rails, beams etc over highways	Section 178 of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Highways and Transportation
9. Power to consent to construction of cellars etc under street	Section 179 of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Highways and Transportation
10. Power to consent to the making of openings into cellars etc under streets, and pavement lights and ventilators	Section 180 of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Highways and Transportation
11. Powers relating to the removal of things so deposited on highways as to be a nuisance	Section 149 of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Highways and Transportation
12. Duty to assert and protect the rights of the public to use and enjoyment of highways	Section 130 of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Growth and Communities or Director of Highways, Transportation and Waste
13. The making of agreements for the execution of highways works	Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980 Section 38 of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Growth and Communities or Director of Highways and Transportation
14. Preventing surface water from flowing on to the highway	Section 100 of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Highways and Transportation
15. The adoption of small pieces of highway where the land owner is KCC or unknown or when works have been carried out	Section 228 of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Highways and Transportation

16. The making of traffic regulation orders to restrict traffic.	Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984	Director of Highways and Transportation
--	----------------------------------	---

D. Functions relating to Public Paths

1. Power to create footpaths, bridleways and restricted byways by agreement	Section 25 of the Highways Act 1980	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or the Local Member requests Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities
2. Power to create footpaths, bridleways and restricted byways	Section 26 of the Highways Act 1980	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or the Local Member requests Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities
3. Duty to keep register of information with respect to maps, statements and declarations	Section 31A of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Growth and Communities
4. Power to stop up footpaths, bridleways and restricted byways	Section 118 of the Highways Act 1980	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or the Local Member requests Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities
5. Power to determine application for public path extinguishment order	Section 118ZA and 118C(2) of the Highways Act 1980	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or the Local Member requests Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities

6. Power to make a rail crossing extinguishment order	Section 118A of the Highways Act 1980	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or the Local Member requests Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities
7. Power to make a special extinguishment order	Section 118B of the Highways Act 1980	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or the Local Member requests Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities
8. Power to divert footpaths, bridleways and restricted byways	Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or the Local Member requests Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities
9. Power to make a public path or restricted byway diversion order	Section 119Z and 119C(4) of the Highways Act 1980	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or the Local Member requests Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities
10. Power to make a rail crossing diversion order	Section 119A of the Highways Act 1980	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or the Local Member requests Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities
11. Power to make a special diversion order	Section 119B of the Highways Act 1980	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or the Local Member requests Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities
12. Power to require applicant for order to enter into agreement	Section 119C(3) of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Environment, Planning and Enforcement

13. Power to make an SSSI diversion order	Section 119D of the Highways Act 1980	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or the Local Member requests Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities
14. Duty to keep register with respect of applications under sections 118ZA, 118C, 119ZA and 119C of the Highways Act 1980	Section 121B of the Highways Act 1980 and the Restricted Byways (Application and Consequential Amendment of Provisions) Regulations 2006/1177	Director of Growth and Communities
15. Power to decline to determine certain applications	Section 121C of the Highways Act 1980	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or the Local Member requests Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities
16. Duty to assert and protect the rights of the public to use and enjoyment of highways	Section 130 of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Growth and Communities
17. Duty to serve notice of proposed action in relation to obstruction	Section 130A of the Highways Act 1980.	Director of Growth and Communities
18. Power to apply for variation of order under section 130B of the Highways Act 1980	Section 130B(7) of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Growth and Communities
19. Power to authorise temporary disturbance of surface of footpath or bridleway	Section 135 of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Growth and Communities
20. Power temporarily to divert footpath or bridleway	Section 135A of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Growth and Communities

Formatted Table

21. Functions relating to the making good of damage and the removal of obstructions	Section 135B of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Growth and Communities
22. Powers relating to the removal of things so deposited on highways as to be a nuisance	Section 149 of the Highways Act 1980	Director of Growth and Communities
23. Power to extinguish certain public rights of way	Section 32 of the Acquisition of Land Act 1981	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or the Local Member requests Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities
24. Duty to keep definitive map and statement under review	Section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or at the request of a political party or elected Member Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities
25. Power to include modifications in other orders	Section 53A of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or the Local Member requests Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities
26. Duty to keep register of prescribed information with respect to applications under section 53(5) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981	Section 53B of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981	Director of Growth and Communities
27. Power to prepare map and statement by way of consolidation of definitive map and statement	Section 57A of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981	Director of Growth and Communities

28. Power to designate footpath as cycle track	Section 3 of the Cycle Tracks Act 1984 and the Cycle Tracks Regulations 1984 (SI 1984/1431).	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or the Local Member requests Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities
29. Power to extinguish public right of way over land acquired for clearance	Section 294 of the Housing Act 1985	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or the Local Member requests Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities
30. Power to authorise stopping-up or diversion of footpath or bridleway	Section 257 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or the Local Member requests Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities
31. Power to extinguish public rights of way over land held for planning purposes	Section 258 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990	Regulation Committee <u>Planning and Regulation Committee</u> – where substantive objection has been raised or the Local Member requests Otherwise, Director of Growth and Communities
32. Power to enter into agreements with respect to means of access	Section 35 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000	Director of Growth and Communities
33. Power to provide access in absence of agreement	Section 37 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000	Director of Growth and Communities

E. Functions Relating to Elections

1. Powers in respect of holding of County Council elections	Section 35 of the Representation of the People Act 1983	County Returning Officer
---	---	--------------------------

2. Power to pay expenses properly incurred by Deputy Returning Officers in relation to County Council functions	Section 36(4) of the Representation of the People Act 1983	County Returning Officer
4. Duty to declare vacancy in office in certain cases	Section 86 of the Local Government Act 1972	County Returning Officer Head of Governance
5. Duty to give public notice of a casual vacancy	Section 87 of the Local Government Act 1972.	County Returning Officer
6. Power to set County Scale of Election Fees and Expenses for KCC Elections.	Section 36(4) of the Representation of the People Act 1983.	Selection and Member Services Committee
7. Power to submit proposals to the Secretary of State for an order under section 10 (pilot schemes for local elections in England and Wales) of the Representation of the People Act 2000	Section 10 of the Representation of the People Act 2000	Selection and Member Services Committee

F. Functions relating to name and status of areas and individuals

1. Power to change the name of the county	Section 74 of the Local Government Act 1972	County Council
2. Power to confer title of honorary alderman or to admit to be an honorary freeman	Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972	County Council

G. Functions relating to the Land Drainage Act 1991

1. Power to enforce obligations to repair watercourses, bridges, etc	Section 21 of the Land Drainage Act 1991 as amended by Section 31 of Schedule 2 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.	Director of Environment and Circular Economy
2. Power to give consent for obstructions, etc, in watercourses	Section 23 of the Land Drainage Act 1991 as amended by Section 32 of Schedule 2 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010	Director of Environment and Circular Economy
3. Power to require works for maintaining flow of watercourses	Section 25 of the Land Drainage Act 1991 as amended by Section 33 of Schedule 2 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010	Director of Environment and Circular Economy
4. Powers of entry for internal drainage boards and local authorities	Section 64 of the Land Drainage Act 1991	Director of Environment and Circular Economy

H. Functions relating to Counter-Terrorism and Security

1. Duty to establish a local panel	Section 36 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015	Corporate Director Adult Social Care and Health
2. Duty to support a local panel	Sections 36-38 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015	Corporate Director Adult Social Care and Health

I. Functions relating to Coastal Access

Power to enter	Schedule 20	Corporate Director of Growth,
----------------	-------------	-------------------------------

agreement with an owner or occupier for the carrying out of works for the purpose of assisting Natural England to discharge the coastal access duty.	section 2 Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009	Environment and Transport.
Power to establish or maintain the England Coast Path in the absence of agreement including the service of notice	Schedule 20 section 3 Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009	Corporate Director of Growth, Environment and Transport.
Power to erect notices and signs where delegated by Natural England	Schedule 20 section 6 (5) Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009	Corporate Director of Growth, Environment and Transport.
Power to remove notices or signs.	Schedule 20 section 8(1)(b) Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009	Corporate Director of Growth, Environment and Transport.
Power to enter land to determine whether works are required and the carrying out of the work and inspection for the purposes of the Act.	Schedule 20 section 9 (2) Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009	Corporate Director of Growth, Environment and Transport.

J. Other Functions

1. Power to make, amend, revoke or re- enact bylaws	Any provision of any enactment (including a local Act), whenever passed, and section 14 of the Interpretation Act 1978	County Council
2. Power to promote or oppose local or personal Bills	Section 239 of the Local Government Act 1972	County Council

3. Functions relating to local government pensions, etc.	Regulations under section 7, 12 or 24 of the Superannuation Act 1972	Pension Fund Committee.
4. Duty to approve authority's statement of accounts, income and expenditure and balance sheet or record of receipts and payments (as the case may be)	The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (2015/234).	Governance and Audit Committee
5. Functions relating to sea fisheries	Ch.1 of Part 6 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 and The Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Order 2010 (SI 2010/2190).	Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority,
6. Power to make standing orders.	Section 106 of, and paragraph 42 of Schedule 12 to, the Local Government Act 1972	County Council
7. Power to appoint staff or place them at the disposal of other authorities	Sections 112 and 113 of the Local Government Act 1972	<u>Senior Managers</u> - Personnel Committee or Member Appointment Panel (Sub Committee) <u>Other officers</u> – Senior Managers
8. Duty to appoint officers as Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer, as responsible for administration of financial affairs and provide staff for them	Sections 151 of the Local Government Act 1972, 4(1) and 5(1) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989	County Council
9. Power to make standing orders as to contracts	Section 135 of the Local Government Act 1972	County Council

10. Power to make payments or provide other benefits in cases of maladministration, etc.	Section 92 of the Local Government Act 2000.	Corporate Director of Finance (as the Section 151 Officer)
11. The making of arrangements for appeals against exclusion of pupils	Section 51A of the Education Act 2002	Head of Governance
12. The making of arrangements for admission appeals	Section 94(1) and (4) and Schedule 24 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998	Head of Governance
13. The making of arrangements for children to whom section 87 applies: appeals by governing bodies	Section 95(2) and Schedule 25 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998	Head of Governance
14. The obtaining of particulars of persons interested in land	Section 16 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976	Director of Growth and Communities or Director of Highways and Transportation
15. Discharge of persons who are subject to Guardianship	Section 23 of the Mental Health Act 1983	Mental Health Guardianship Sub-Committee on the recommendation of Director Adult Social Care and Health
16. Appointment of, nomination of or removal of LEA Governors to school governing bodies	School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012	Governor Appointment Panel Appointments delegated to the Corporate Director Children, Young People and Education, in consultation with the Chairman of the Governor Appointment Panel where the nominee meets the guidelines in full

17. Legal framework for duty of care for waste, contaminated land and statutory nuisance.	Environmental Protection Act 1990	Director of Highways and Transportation or Director of Environment and Circular Economy
18. To carry out Highways, Transport & Waste statutory duties included within the listed legislation.	The Highways Act 1980, The Traffic Management Act 2004, The New Roads and Streetworks Act 1991, The Road Traffic Act 1991, Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016, The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015, The Equality Act 2010, Town and Country Planning Act 1990, The Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 and Public Nuisance Common Law.	Director of Highways and Transportation or Director of Environment and Circular Economy

19. Grant dispensations where: (i) without the dispensation, the representation of different political groups on the body transacting the business would be so upset as to alter the outcome of any vote on the matter; or (ii) that the authority considers that the dispensation is in the interests of persons living in its area; or (iii) where the Committee considers that it is otherwise appropriate to grant a dispensation.	Section 33 (2) of the Localism Act 2011	Standards Committee Monitoring Officer
20. The appointment of proper officers	See Relevant regulation in Constitution: Statutory and Proper Officers.	County Council

21. The appointment (and the revocation of any such appointment) of an individual: (a) to any office other than an office in which he is employed by the authority (b) to any body other than: (i) the authority (ii) a joint committee of two or more authorities (c) to any committee or sub-committee of such a body		All Senior Officers except when the appointment needs to be made by the Leader in connection with the delegation by him of his functions, the list of those appointments to be agreed from time to time by the Selection and Member Services Committee
22. Any function under a local Act		All Senior Officers

~~Note 1—The following delegation to the Head of Planning Applications Group was agreed by the Planning Applications Committee on 18 November 2015:~~

~~To determine any application (including details submitted under condition and non-material amendments) for which there has been no relevant planning objection raised by consultees or as a result of publicity, or where representations are received that could otherwise be considered material planning objections but in the opinion of the Head of Planning Applications are not relevant in a particular case.~~

~~Note 2—The following delegation to the Head of Planning Applications Group was agreed by the Planning Applications Committee on 18 November 2015:~~

~~To refuse applications and to not approve details submitted under conditions where such submissions meet any of the following criteria:~~

- ~~• The proposal does not accord with the Development Plan and there are no overriding material reasons for granting permission or approving the details;~~
- ~~• Insufficient detail or information has been submitted to:~~
 - ~~(i) enable proper consideration of an application for planning permission; or~~
 - ~~(ii) satisfy the terms of a condition or conditions, in the case of an application to discharge a condition or conditions; or~~
 - ~~(iii) enable technical issues raised by consultees to be resolved, either to determine an application for permission or to discharge a condition or conditions;~~
- ~~• The applicant has not agreed a reasonable extension of time to~~

Formatted: Highlight

otherwise allow, within the required timescale for:

- (i) ~~proper consideration of any further information submitted; or~~
- (ii) ~~completion of a legal agreement; or~~
- (iii) ~~resolution of any other outstanding matters;~~

- ~~The applicant has failed to complete a legal agreement upon which a resolution by the Planning Applications Committee to grant planning permission is dependent within 6 months of such a resolution being made;~~
- ~~The application is retrospective and is aimed at rectifying a breach of planning control against which Enforcement proceedings including Court prosecutions have already been instigated;~~
- ~~The application is a repeat application within 12 months of a previous refusal or withdrawal and does not address the grounds of refusal or concerns raised by the earlier proposal.~~

~~Such decisions in relation to Note 2 above will only be issued following consultation with the Chair, Vice Chair and Lead Spokesperson for each Political Group prior to a decision being taken unless reasons of urgency make this impracticable. The consultation period shall usually be 2 working days.~~

~~Any decision taken in respect of Note 2 above is to be reported to the Committee, including the reason that (exceptionally) it had been impractical to consult the Chair, Vice Chair and Lead Spokesperson for each Political Group.~~

This page is intentionally left blank

From:	Brian Collins, Deputy Leader Brendan Arnold, Corporate Director Finance
To:	County Council – 17 September 2026
Subject:	Treasury Management Year End Report
Classification:	Unrestricted

Summary: This report provides an overview of Treasury Management activity in 2025-26.

Recommendation: Council is asked to note the report.

1. Background

- 1.1 This report covers Treasury Management activity in 2025-26.
- 1.2 The Council's Financial Regulations require reporting to the County Council on its treasury management policies, practices and activities, including, as a minimum, an annual strategy and plan, a mid-year review and an annual report after its close. This is considered best practice by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Treasury Management Code (CIPFA's TM Code). The Council's Treasury Management Strategy for 2025-26 was approved by the County Council on 13 February 2025. This report updates on actual activity against that plan at year end.
- 1.3 The Council has nominated the Governance & Audit Committee to be responsible for ensuring effective scrutiny of the treasury management strategy and policies. That committee considered and endorsed this report on 29 July 2026, for consideration by County Council.
- 1.4 The Council operates a balanced budget, which broadly means cash raised during the year will meet its cash expenditure. Part of the treasury management operations ensure this cash flow is adequately planned, with surplus monies being invested in accordance with the Council's priorities of security, liquidity and finally yield (in that order).
- 1.5 The treasury management strategy also ensures the funding of the Council's capital plans. These capital plans provide a guide to the borrowing need of the Council, essentially the longer-term cash flow planning to ensure the Council can meet its capital spending operations. This management of longer-term cash may involve arranging long or short-term loans, or using longer term cash flow surpluses, and on occasion any debt previously drawn may be restructured to meet Council risk or cost objectives.

- 1.6 Accordingly, treasury management is defined as: *“The management of the local authority’s borrowing, investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.”*

2. Summary

- 2.1 Details are attached at Appendix 1, 2 and 3 of this report.

- *Appendix 1* contains the full report that was considered by Governance & Audit committee. A very short summary of that report is included in the following paragraphs.
- *Appendix 2* contains a breakdown of the borrowings as well as investments held (both internally and externally managed).
- *Appendix 3* provides a helpful glossary of terms for those new to treasury and investment

3. During the year the Council maintained its prudent approach to treasury management and met all its prudential indicators of liquidity, security and interest rate risk
4. The Council continues to manage its interest costs by borrowing from internal resources (chart 3.1) as well as earning interest on cash balances.
5. External borrowings at the end of the year were £610.3m, reducing by £122.2m during the year. The reduction included early repayment of loans totaling £90m and the rest being loans repaid on maturity. No new borrowings were made during the year.
6. The investments position at the end of the year was £315.9m, a decrease of £159.9m. This reflects reduction in cash balances mainly due to a combination of repayment of loans as well as lower working capital balances at the year end.
7. The Council’s investments, which are maintained for cash flow purposes, are invested in a mix of short- and medium-term instruments. The Council has reviewed its investments and has made plans to transition the holdings into a more liquid portfolio as well as reducing portfolio risk. This involves replacing holdings in the Pooled Funds portfolio and Covered Bonds with more liquid instruments.
8. During the year, the Council made a saving of £2.9m against the interest cost budget mainly due to savings through early repayment of debt as well as improved earnings on investments which benefited from the Bank of England cutting interest rates slower than expected.

3. Recommendation

Council is asked to note this report.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Full Year Treasury Management Outturn 2025-26

Appendix 2 – Investments as at 31 March 2026

Appendix 3 – Glossary of Terms

Sangeeta Surana – Pension Fund and Treasury Investments Manager

T: 03000 416738

E: Sangeeta.Surana@kent.gov.uk

September 2026

This page is intentionally left blank

From:	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services Corporate Director - Finance
To:	Governance and Audit Committee – 29 July 2026
Subject:	Treasury Management Outturn 2025-26
Classification:	Unrestricted
Future Pathway of report	County Council

Summary: This report provides an overview of Treasury Management activity in 2025-26 and developments in 2026-27. Listed below are some of the key highlights to aid the Committee in their review:

- a. The Council maintained its prudent approach to treasury management and met all its prudential indicators of liquidity, security and interest rate risk
- b. The Council continues to manage its interest cost by borrowing from internal resources (chart 3.1) as well as earning interest on cash balances.
- c. External borrowings at the end of the year were £610.3m, reducing by £122.2m during the year. The reduction included early repayment of loans totalling £90m and the rest being loans repaid on maturity. No new borrowings were made during the year.
- d. The investments position at the end of the year was £315.9m, a decrease of £159.9m. This reflects reduction in cash balances mainly due to a combination of repayment of loans as well as lower working capital balances at the year end.
- e. The Council's investments which are maintained for cash flow purposes are invested in a mix of short- and medium-term instruments. The Council has reviewed its investments and has made plans to transition the holdings into a more liquid portfolio as well as reducing portfolio risk. This involves replacing holdings in the Pooled Funds portfolio and covered bonds with more liquid instruments.
- f. During the year, the Council made a saving of £2.9m against the interest cost budget mainly due to savings through early repayment of debt as well as improved earnings on investments which benefitted from the Bank of England cutting interest rates slower than expected.

Recommendation: The Committee is asked to endorse this report and recommend that it is submitted to County Council.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report covers Treasury Management activity in 2025-26.
- 1.2 If agreed by the Committee, this report will be presented to County Council.
- 1.3 The Council's Treasury Management Strategy for 2025-26 was approved by the County Council on 13 February 2025.
- 1.4 The Council has both borrowed and invested substantial sums of money and is therefore exposed to financial risks including the loss of invested funds and the revenue effect of changing interest rates. The successful identification, monitoring and control of risk are therefore central to the Council's treasury management strategy. This report covers treasury activity and the associated monitoring and control of risk.
- 1.5 Treasury risk management at the Council is conducted within the framework of CIPFA's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice (the CIPFA Code) which requires the Council to approve a treasury management strategy before the start of each financial year and, as a minimum, a semi-annual and annual treasury outturn report. This report fulfils the Council's legal obligation under the Local Government Act 2003 to have regard to the CIPFA Code.
- 1.6 The Council has nominated the Governance & Audit Committee to be responsible for ensuring effective scrutiny of the treasury management strategy and policies.

2. Governance and Audit Committee's Responsibility

- 2.1 In accordance with Kent County Council's Financial Regulations, the Committee is responsible for ensuring effective scrutiny of the treasury management strategy and policies. Members are reminded that the responsibility for the implementation and regular monitoring of treasury management policies and practices is the delegated responsibility of Cabinet, and the execution and administration of treasury management decisions is delegated to the Section 151 Officer.
- 2.2 Members are reminded that the purpose of this Committee, in accordance with its [Terms of Reference](#), is to provide independent and high-level focus on the adequacy of governance, risk, finance, and control arrangements.
- 2.3 Towards this purpose, its role is to:
 - ensure there is sufficient assurance over governance risk and control and provide reports to full Council on the effectiveness and adequacy of these arrangements;
 - have oversight of both internal and external audit together with the financial and governance reports, helping to ensure that there are adequate arrangements in place for both internal challenge and public accountability, and
 - through i and ii above, give greater confidence to all those charged with governance for Kent County Council that its arrangements are effective and reporting to full Council or other Committees as necessary where the Committee has concerns that these arrangements are not effective.

3. External context

- 3.1 **Economic background:** The following economic commentary has been provided by the Council's retained treasury advisor, MUFG Corporate Markets.

UK Economy

- a) *As with 2024/25, UK inflation has proved somewhat stubborn throughout 2025/26. Having started the financial year at 3.5%, the CPI measure of inflation peaked at 3.8% from July to September, before dipping to 3% in January and February. Core inflation picked up to 3.2% in February, from 3.1%, and the recent upward pressure on energy costs could see CPI inflation breach 4.5% later this year.*
- b) *Against this backdrop, the continued lack of progress in ending the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and the potentially negative implications for global growth as a consequence of the implementation of US tariff policies, Bank Rate reductions look limited for the remainder of 2026 (as they do in the euro-zone). Bank Rate currently stands at 3.75%.*
- c) *Moreover, borrowing has become more expensive in 2025/26. Gilt yields have risen materially in March 2026, more than reversing the falls earlier in the financial year. Additionally, the public finances have remained under pressure. The higher-than-expected public net sector borrowing of £14.3bn in February was £2.2bn above last February's outturn. But that borrowing overshoot was mainly due to timing effects relating to the £13.0bn government debt interest payment. That came in as the highest payment since June 2025, causing a 12.3% increase in spending.*
- d) *However, the combination of some energy price support and pressures from higher inflation amid the ongoing energy price shock, higher interest rates and a weaker economy will ultimately put borrowing on an upward trend. With the rise in energy prices possibly pushing the Retail Prices Index inflation up to a peak of 5.7%, debt interest repayments will increase by about £10bn.*
- e) *The loosening in the labour market continues to bear down on wage growth. The 3myy growth rate of average earnings including bonuses slowed from 4.2% in December to 3.9% in January. Meanwhile, excluding bonuses, private earnings growth continued to fall from 3.4% to 3.3%.*
- f) *The table below provides a snapshot of the conundrum facing central banks: inflation pressures remain, labour markets are still relatively tight by historical comparisons, and central banks are also having to react to a fundamental re-ordering of economic and defence policies driven largely by the US administration*

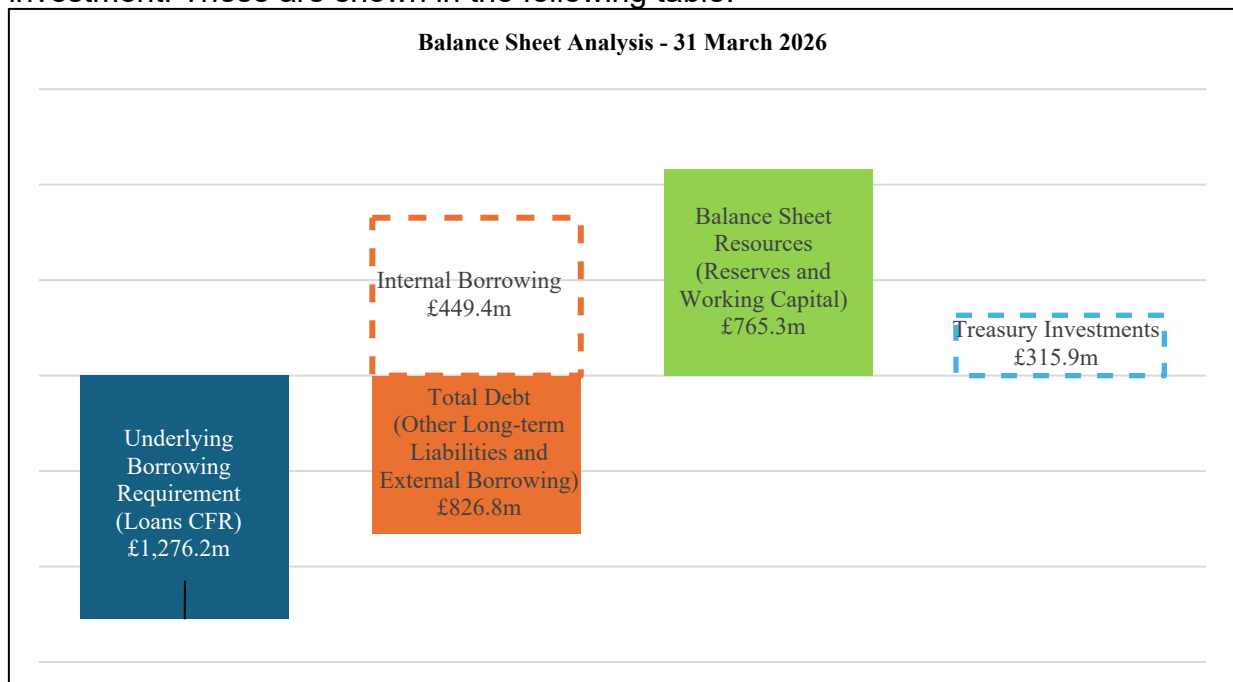
	UK	Eurozone	US
Bank Rate	3.75%	2.0%	3.5%-3.75%
GDP	0.1%q/q Q4 (1.0%y/y)	+0.2%q/q Q4 (1.2%y/y)	0.7% Q4 Annualised
Inflation	3.0%y/y (Feb)	1.9%y/y (Feb)	2.4%y/y (Feb)

Unemployment Rate	5.2% (Jan)	6.2% (Jan)	4.4% (Feb)
--------------------------	------------	------------	------------

- g) *The Bank of England left Bank Rate unchanged at 3.75% by a vote of 9-0, but suggesting rates may need to rise if inflation picks up markedly. The vote could best be described as moderately hawkish. The MPC stated it “stands ready to act as necessary” and “is alert to the increased risk of domestic inflationary pressures through second-round effects in wage and price-setting”. Even so, we suspect the committee is likely to put equal weight on higher inflation and weaker growth, particularly the poor macroeconomic backdrop prior to the energy shock, keeping interest rates at 3.75% this year.*
- h) *10-year Gilt yields have been exceptionally volatile in the final weeks of 2025/26, troughing at around 4.23% in late February before rising to 5.00% (and well through that on an intraday basis). That spike was driven by the outbreak of war in the Middle East, which prompted a dramatic reassessment of investors’ Bank of England policy rate expectations. Having been pricing in rate cuts in late-February, as many as four rate hikes were discounted by late-March. The 10-year yield ended the quarter at 4.92% with around 65bp of rate hikes priced in over the coming year. In addition to more hawkish monetary policy expectations, part of this increase in yields probably reflected an increase in term premia amid concerns that the government may react by loosening the fiscal purse strings.*

4. Local context

- 4.1 At 31 March 2026 the Council had borrowings of £610.3m and investments of £315.9m arising from its revenue and capital income and expenditure. The underlying need to borrow for capital purposes is measured by the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR), while usable reserves and working capital are the underlying resources available for investment. These are shown in the following table.



- 4.2 The Council followed its strategy to maintain borrowing and investments below their

underlying levels, known as internal borrowing, in order to reduce risk and keep interest costs low. This strategy is regularly reviewed with the Council's treasury advisors taking account of capital spending plans and available cash resources.

- 4.3 The treasury management position on 31 March 2026 and the change during the year is shown in the following table.

	31-Mar-25	2025-26	31-Mar-26	31-Mar-26
	Balance £m	Movement £m	Balance £m	Average Rate %
Long-term borrowing	732.6	-122.2	610.3	4.2
Total borrowing	732.6	-122.2	610.3	4.2
Long-term investments	305.0	-23.1	281.9	4.7
Short-term investments	27.9	-27.9	0.0	0.0
Cash and cash equivalents	143.0	-108.9	34.1	3.8
Total investments	475.8	-159.9	315.9	4.6

5. Borrowing Update

- 5.1 CIPFA's 2021 Prudential Code is clear that local authorities must not borrow to invest primarily for financial return and that it is not prudent for local authorities to make any investment or spending decision that will increase the capital financing requirement, and so may lead to new borrowing, unless directly and primarily related to the functions of the Authority. PWLB loans are no longer available to local authorities planning to buy investment assets primarily for yield unless these loans are for refinancing purposes.

6. Borrowing Strategy During the Period

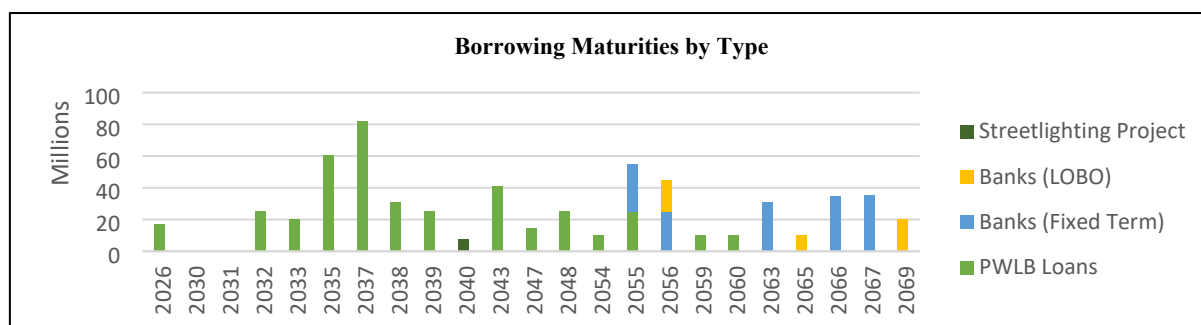
- 6.1 The Council's chief objective when borrowing has been to strike an appropriately low risk balance between securing low interest costs and achieving cost certainty over the period for which funds are required, with flexibility to renegotiate loans should the Council's long-term plans change being a secondary objective.
- 6.2 At 31 March 2026, the Council held £610.3m of loans as part of its strategy for funding previous capital programmes. No new borrowing was undertaken in the year and £122.2m of existing loans were allowed to mature or repaid without replacement.
- 6.3 Interest rates rose over the year in both the long and short term, with rates at the end of March around 0.25% higher than those at the beginning of April. The PWLB 10-year maturity certainty rate stood at 5.73% at 31 March 2026, 20 years at 6.20% and 30 years at 6.26%.
- 6.4 The Council continues to hold LOBO (Lender's Option Borrower's Option) loans where the lender has the option to propose an increase in the interest rate at set dates, following which the Council has the option to either accept the new rate or to repay the loan at no additional cost. Rising interest rates increases the likelihood of a lender

exercising their option, as such Dexia exercised their option on £40m loan during the period.

- 6.5 The Council's borrowing activity in 2025-26 is in the table below and a detailed schedule of borrowings as at 31 March 2026 is in Appendix 1.

	31-Mar-25	2025-26	31-Mar-26	31-Mar-26	31-Mar-26
	Balance	Movement	Balance	Average Rate	Value Weighted Average Life
	(£m)	(£m)	(£m)	(%)	(yrs)
PWLB Loan	428.5	-31.7	396.8	4.2%	14.6
Banks (Fixed Term)	206.1	-50.0	156.1	4.5%	36.1
Banks (LOBO)	90.0	-40.0	50.0	4.0%	37.0
Streetlighting project	7.9	-0.5	7.4	2.9%	14.5
Total borrowing	732.6	-122.2	610.3	4.2%	21.9

- 6.6 The maturity profile of the Council's outstanding debt at 31 March 2026 was as follows:



7. Treasury Investment Activity

- 7.1 CIPFA published a revised Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes on 20th December 2021. These define treasury management investments as investments that arise from the organisation's cash flows or treasury risk management activity that represents balances that need to be invested until the cash is required for use in the course of business.
- 7.2 The Council holds significant invested funds representing income received in advance of expenditure plus balances and reserves held. During the year, the Council's investment balance ranged between £313.7m and £705.0m due to timing differences between income and expenditure, as well as £122.2m used to fund maturing debts and early repayment.
- 7.3 Both the CIPFA Code and government guidance require the Council to invest its funds prudently, and to have regard to the security and liquidity of its treasury investments before seeking the highest rate of return, or yield. The Council's objective when investing money is to strike an appropriate balance between risk and return, minimising the risk of incurring losses from defaults and the risk of receiving unsuitably low investment income.
- 7.4 Bank Rate decreased from 4.50% at the beginning of the year to 3.75% at the end of

March 2026. Short-dated cash rates, which had ranged between 4.39% - 4.45% at the beginning of April, dropped by around 0.75% for Overnight/7-day maturities and 0.48% for 3/6-month maturities.

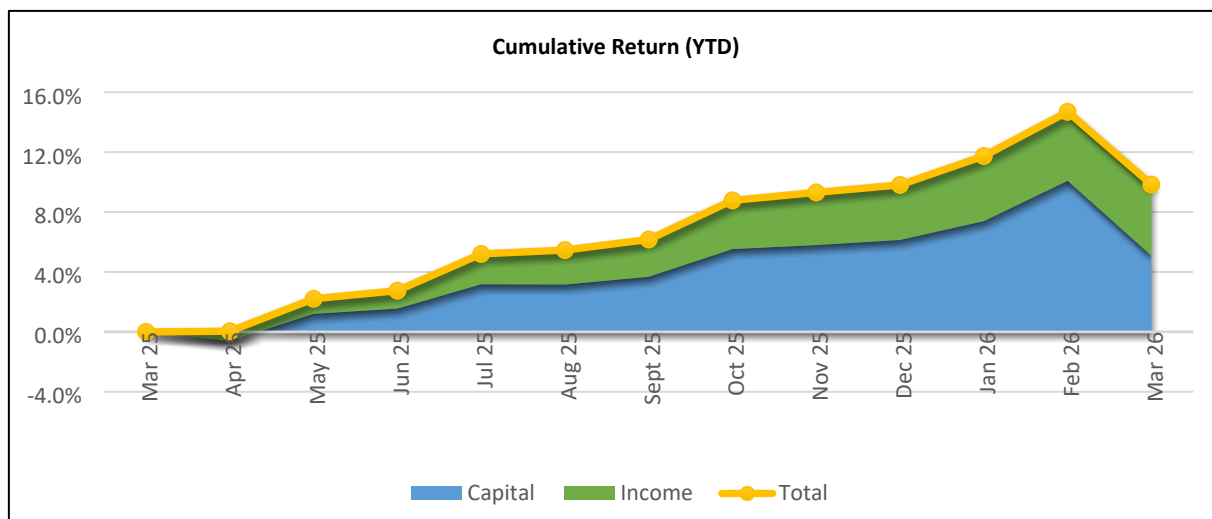
- 7.5 The Council continues to hold significant cash balances in money market funds as well as in bank call accounts which have same day availability. This liquid cash was diversified over several counterparties and money market funds to manage both credit and liquidity risks.
- 7.6 During the year the Council loaned £10.4m to the no use empty loans programme. At 31 March 2026, the Council had loans outstanding totalling £19.3m to the programme now achieving a return of 3.8% which is available to fund general services. A £29.5m net decrease in covered bonds in the year brings the total bond portfolio up to £73.9m. These instruments are negotiable and have the benefit of collateral cover.
- 7.7 The Council's investments during the year are summarised in the table below and a detailed schedule of investments as at 31 March 2026 is in Appendix 1.

	31-Mar-25	2025-26	31-Mar-26	31-Mar-26	31-Mar-26
	Balance	Movement	Balance	Rate of Return	Average Credit Rating
	(£m)	(£m)	(£m)	(%)	
Money Market Funds	133.0	-105.5	27.5	3.8	AAA
Call Deposits (Banks)	10.0	-3.4	6.6	3.4	A+
Treasury Bills (UK Government)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
DMADF Deposits (DMO)	27.9	-27.9	0.0	0.0	
Covered Bonds	103.3	-29.5	73.9	4.4	AAA
No Use Empty Loans	22.0	-2.7	19.3	3.8	
Equity	2.1	0.0	2.1		
Internally Managed Cash	298.3	-168.9	129.4	4.1	AA+
Strategic Pooled Funds	177.5	9.0	186.6	4.9	
Total	475.8	-159.9	315.9	4.6	

8. Externally managed investments

- 8.1 The Council is invested in equity, multi-asset and property funds. Because the pooled funds have no defined maturity date, but are available for withdrawal after a notice period, their performance and continued suitability in meeting the Council's investment objectives are regularly reviewed. The Council commenced implementation of its strategy to reduce pooled fund investments over the medium term to support liquidity requirements and given that the return differential between these instruments and other liquid fixed income instruments has narrowed which downgrades the rationale for holding such investments. Redemption requests have been submitted to the CCLA Property Fund as part of the planned reduction in the portfolio.
- 8.2 Although expected returns are higher over the long term than comparable short-term cash instruments, returns on pooled fund investments can be volatile from one year to the next, and therefore the Council only holds long term (strategic) cash balances in the strategic pooled funds' portfolio.

- 8.3 Performance YTD.** The value of our holdings increased to £186.6m at the end of March 2026, showing an unrealised gain of 9m (5.1%) since the end of March 2025. The total return (comprised of both income and capital returns) on the pooled fund investments over the year since 31 March 2025 was £17.5m (9.8%), as shown in the table below.

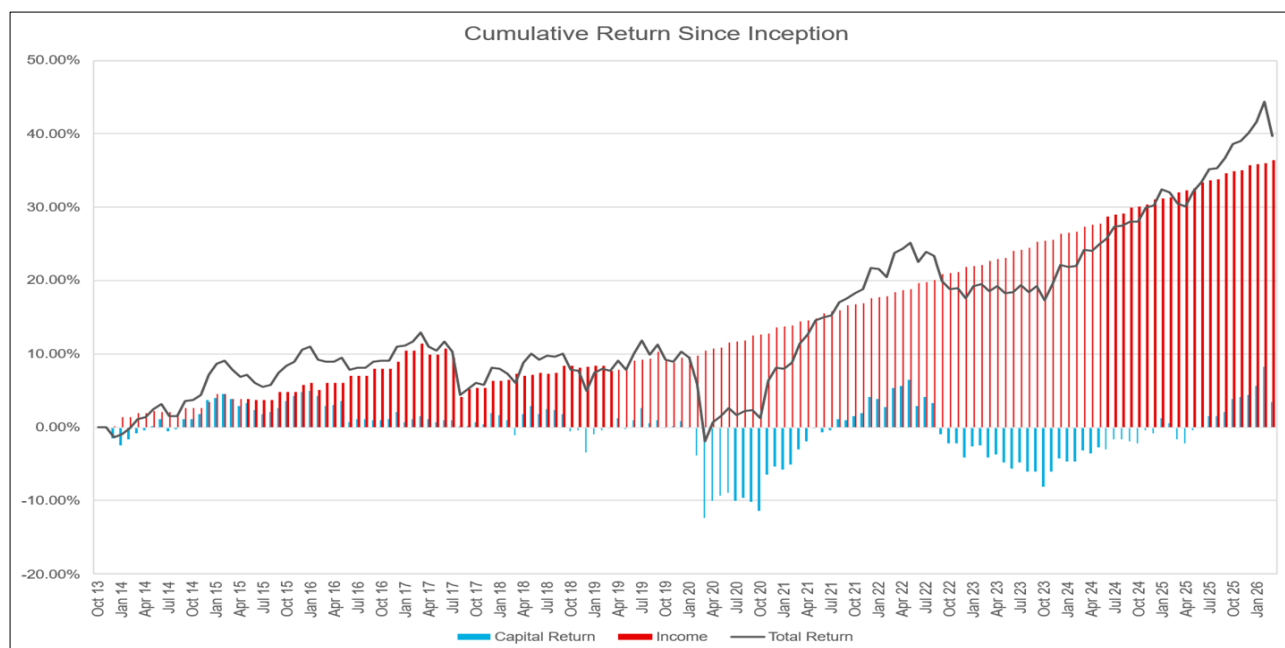


- 8.4** The market value of the pooled fund investments as at 31 March 2026 compared to the position as at 31 March 2025 is shown in the table below.

Investment Fund	Book cost	31-Mar-25	2025-26	31-Mar-26	31-Mar-26	
		Market Value	Movement	Market Value	12 months return	
					Income	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	%	%
CCLA LAMIT Property Fund	60.0	55.3	0.0	55.3	4.6	4.6
CCLA Cautious Multi-Asset Fund (formerly DIF)	5.0	4.7	-0.3	4.4	3.1	-2.6
Pyrford Global Total Return Sterling Fund	5.0	5.5	0.3	5.8	3.0	8.8
Fidelity Global Multi Asset Income Fund	25.0	22.4	0.9	23.2	5.1	9.0
Ninety-One (Investec) Diversified Income Fund	10.0	9.1	0.1	9.2	4.8	6.0
Aegon (KAMES) Diversified Monthly Income Fund	20.0	18.6	1.6	20.1	5.8	14.1
M&G Global Dividend Fund	10.0	16.3	2.2	18.5	3.3	17.0
Schroders Income Maximiser Fund	25.0	21.9	1.6	23.5	7.5	15.0
Threadneedle Global Equity Fund	10.0	12.8	1.8	14.5	2.5	16.4
Threadneedle UK Equity Income Fund L	10.0	11.2	0.8	12.0	3.9	11.3
Total Externally Managed Investments	180.0	177.5	9.0	186.6	4.7	9.8

- 8.5 Performance since inception:** KCC initially invested in pooled funds in 2013. By the end of March 2026 they had achieved a total income return of £65.6m, 36.5%, with an increase in the capital value of the portfolio of £6.6m, 3.6%. Total returns since inception have been far in excess of the returns available from cash over the same

period and these instruments are an effective way of managing the Council's longer term cash balances. The following chart tracks the returns earned on the pooled funds over the period from inception.



- 8.6 IFRS 9 Statutory Override:** Under the current accounting requirements governing local authorities, movements in the fair value of pooled fund investments are removed from the general fund and recognised on the Council's balance sheet. This effectively ensures the impact of volatility in the capital value of such investments does not affect the annual revenue outturn. However, the relevant accounting provision (known as the "IFRS 9 statutory override") is temporary in nature and is now due to expire on 31 March 2029 (for legacy investments only) and therefore (in the absence of any future regulatory changes), the Council will begin to recognise movements in the fair value of pooled fund investments from 2029/30, including the cumulative position to date (whilst any new investments would be subject to compliance immediately). Given the uncertainty surrounding the impact of the expiry of the override, the Council recognises this risk on the Budget Risk Register.

9. Investment benchmarking at 31 March 2026

- 9.1** The Council's retained treasury advisor, MUFG Corporate Markets monitors the risk and return of some 228 local authority investment portfolios. The metrics over the 12 months to 31 March 2026 extracted from their quarterly investment benchmarking, per the table below, show that the risk within the Kent internally managed funds having been consistent throughout the 12-month period is in line with that of other local authorities. The income return has risen reflecting increased rates payable on our cash investments.

Internally managed investments	Weighted Average Risk Score	Weighted Average Risk Rating	Weighted Average Time to Maturity (days)	Weighted Average Rate of Return (%)
--------------------------------	-----------------------------	------------------------------	--	-------------------------------------

Kent - 31.03.2025	1.11	AA+	204	4.48
Kent - 31.03.2026	1.18	AA+	191	4.22
English Counties (15)	1.58	AA+	60	4.06
Population Average (228)	1.95	AA+	52	4.00

10. Actual and forecast outturn

- 10.1 Outturn net debt costs are £2.976m lower than budget. Savings were made against budgeted borrowing interest costs as we did not undertake any new borrowing in 2025-26 and we made an early redemption of £10m Phoenix Life loan (in 24-25), £50m Barclays loans, and £40m Dexia LOBO loans. Barclays redemptions delivered a discount to book cost, and all prepayments delivered a saving on budgeted interest costs. Additionally, there was £0.48m unbudgeted contribution from UASC / Project Athena as well as £1.5m net increase in investment income.

11 Compliance

- 11.1 The Corporate Director - Finance reports that all treasury management activities undertaken during the year complied fully with the CIPFA Code of Practice and the Council's approved Treasury Management Strategy.

12 Treasury Management Indicators

- 12.1 The Council measures and manages its exposures to treasury management risks using the following indicators:
- 12.2 **Security:** The Council has adopted a voluntary measure of its exposure to credit risk by monitoring the value-weighted average credit rating of its internally managed investment portfolio. This is calculated by applying a score to each investment (AAA=1, AA+=2, etc.) and taking the arithmetic average, weighted by the size of each investment. Unrated investments are assigned a score based on their perceived risk.

Credit risk indicator	Actual 31/03/2026	Minimum
Portfolio average credit rating	AA+	AA-

- 12.3 **Liquidity:** The Council has adopted a voluntary measure of its exposure to liquidity risk by monitoring the amount of cash available to meet unexpected payments within a rolling three-month period, without additional borrowing.

Liquidity risk indicator	Actual 31/03/2026	Minimum
Total cash available within 3 months	£71.3m	£75m

Liquid cash levels dropped marginally below the minimum level for a short period of time due to early debt repayment. The table above however only shows position at a

point in time. Since then, balances have reverted to more normal levels. As at 30 June cash available within 3 months was £118m.

- 12.4 Interest rate exposures:** This indicator is set to control the Council's exposure to interest rate risk. The upper limits on the one-year revenue impact of a 1% rise or fall in interest rates was:

Interest rate risk indicator	Actual 31/03/2026	Upper Limit
One-year revenue impact of a 1% <u>rise</u> in interest rates	£0.7m	£10m
One-year revenue impact of a 1% <u>fall</u> in interest rates	-£0.7m	-£10m

- 12.5 Maturity structure of borrowing:** This indicator is set to control the Council's exposure to refinancing risk. The upper and lower limits on the maturity structure of borrowing were:

	Actual 31/03/2026	Upper limit	Lower limit
Under 12 months	2.8%	100%	0%
12 months and within 5 years	0.0%	50%	0%
5 years and within 10 years	17.3%	50%	0%
10 years and within 20 years	30.6%	50%	0%
20 years and within 40 years	40.2%	50%	0%
40 years and longer	9.1%	50%	0%

Time periods start on the first day of each financial year. The maturity date of borrowing is the earliest date on which the lender can demand repayment.

- 12.6 Principal sums invested for periods longer than a year:** The purpose of this indicator is to control the Council's exposure to the risk of incurring losses by seeking early repayment of its investments. The limits on the long-term principal sum invested to final maturities beyond the period end were:

Price risk indicator	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	No Fixed Date
Limit on principal invested beyond year end	£100m	£80m	£50m	£220m
Actual as at 31 March 2026	£17.2m	£10.2m	£0.0m	£208.0m

13 Recommendation

Members are asked to endorse this report and recommend that it is submitted to Council.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Borrowings and Investments as at 31 March 2026

Appendix 2 – Glossary of Terms

Sangeeta Surana – Pension Fund and Treasury Investments Manager

T: 03000 416738

E: Sangeeta.Surana@kent.gov.uk

25 June 2026

Borrowings as at 31 March 2026

Borrowing Type	Counterparty	Principal Amount (£)	Interest Rate	End Date
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	7,000,000	6.5000%	10/11/26
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	10,000,000	5.5000%	10/11/26
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	377	3.0000%	10/08/30
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	1,469	3.0000%	10/02/31
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	25,000,000	4.2700%	10/05/32
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	442	4.2500%	10/08/32
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	1,293	4.0000%	10/08/33
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	20,000,000	2.2100%	10/08/33
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	60,470,000	4.1000%	10/02/35
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	21,500,000	4.6500%	10/05/37
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	60,560,000	4.0500%	14/12/37
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	31,000,000	4.6500%	10/05/38
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	25,500,000	4.6500%	10/05/39
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	10,000,000	4.3900%	10/05/43
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	31,000,000	4.6500%	10/11/43
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	14,800,000	4.3000%	10/02/47
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	25,000,000	4.2900%	10/08/48
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	10,000,000	4.2000%	10/05/54
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	25,000,000	3.1600%	10/08/55
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	10,000,000	3.9500%	03/09/59
PWLB Loan	Debt Management Office	10,000,000	3.9500%	03/09/60
Total PWLB Loans		396,833,581		
Bank (Fixed Term)	Barclays Bank	8,000,000	4.0500%	14/12/55
Bank (Fixed Term)	Barclays Bank	8,000,000	4.0500%	14/12/55
Bank (Fixed Term)	Barclays Bank	8,000,000	4.0500%	14/12/55
Bank (Fixed Term)	Barclays Bank	6,000,000	4.0500%	14/12/55
Bank (Fixed Term)	Barclays Bank	25,000,000	4.2700%	29/06/56
Bank (Fixed Term)	Barclays Bank	30,600,000	4.5000%	23/04/63
Bank (Fixed Term)	Barclays Bank	15,000,000	4.8700%	29/01/66
Bank (Fixed Term)	Barclays Bank	20,000,000	4.9200%	30/03/66
Bank (Fixed Term)	Barclays Bank	35,500,000	4.5000%	25/04/67
Total Bank (Fixed Term)		156,100,000		
Bank (LOBO)	FMS Wertmanagement	20,000,000	3.7000%	25/04/56
Bank (LOBO)	Dexia	10,000,000	4.3000%	20/04/65
Bank (LOBO)	Dexia	20,000,000	4.1500%	18/02/69
Total Bank (LOBO)		50,000,000		
Streetlighting Project	L1 Renewables Ltd	7,404,338	2.88%	28/09/40
Total Streetlighting Project		7,404,338		

Total Borrowings**610,337,918**

Investments as at 31 March 2026**1. Internally Managed Investments****1.1 Term deposit, Call account and Money Market Fund**

Instrument Type	Counterparty	Principal Amount (£)	Interest Rate	End Date
Total Treasury Bills		0		
Total DMADF Deposits		0		
Call Account	National Westminster Bank plc	1,000,000	2.75%	
Call Account	Lloyds Bank plc	5,640,000	3.54%	
Total Call Accounts		6,640,000		
No Use Empty Loans		19,265,140	3.7675%	
Money Market Fund	Aberdeen Liquidity Fund (Lux) KCC	5,370	3.8163%	
Money Market Fund	Aviva Investors Sterling Liquidity Fund 3 GBP Inc	5,845	3.8125%	
Money Market Fund	Deutsche Managed Sterling Platinum	5,966	3.8230%	
Money Market Fund	Federated Prime Rate Sterling Liquidity 3	11,439,176	3.8330%	
Money Market Fund	HSBC Sterling Liquidity Fund F	9,675	3.7354%	
Money Market Fund	LGIM Sterling Liquidity Fund 4	15,979,284	3.8390%	
Money Market Fund	Northern Trust Sterling Cash Fund	5,023	3.8038%	
Total Money Market Funds		27,450,340		
Equity	Kent PFI (Holdings) Ltd	2,135,741		n/a

Bond Portfolio

Bond Type	Issuer	Adjusted Principal (£)	Coupon Rate	Maturity Date
Fixed Rate Covered Bond	Bayerische Landesbank Covered	14,993,428	5.1759%	01/06/26
Fixed Rate Covered Bond	Bayerische Landesbank Covered	299,773	5.2128%	01/06/26
Fixed Rate Covered Bond	Clydesdale Bank Covered	6,013,040	4.3981%	08/06/26
Fixed Rate Covered Bond	National Australia Bank Covered	3,940,714	4.6707%	04/09/26
Fixed Rate Covered Bond	Commonwealth Bank of Australia Covered	986,050	4.5842%	04/09/26
Fixed Rate Covered Bond	Lloyds Bank Covered	5,526,453	4.3730%	30/03/27
Fixed Rate Covered Bond	Lloyds Bank Covered	2,614,953	4.3326%	08/02/29
Fixed Rate Covered Bond	Santander UK Covered	5,099,467	4.5260%	16/02/29
Fixed Rate Covered Bond	Santander UK Covered	1,527,241	4.5883%	16/02/29
Fixed Rate Covered Bond	Santander UK Covered	960,860	4.7154%	16/02/29
Floating Rate Covered Bond	Nationwide Building Society Covered	500,107	4.2398%	20/04/26
Floating Rate Covered Bond	Nationwide Building Society Covered	5,400,515	4.2883%	20/04/26
Floating Rate Covered Bond	Bank of Nova Scotia Covered	10,010,978	4.0076%	22/06/26
Floating Rate Covered Bond	Royal Bank of Canada Covered	4,008,793	3.8097%	13/07/26
Floating Rate Covered Bond	Yorkshire Building Society Covered	3,001,723	3.9378%	18/01/27
Floating Rate Covered Bond	Yorkshire Building Society Covered	2,000,789	3.9566%	18/01/27
Floating Rate Covered Bond	Leeds Building Society Covered	3,999,495	4.2622%	15/05/27
Floating Rate Covered Bond	Leeds Building Society Covered	3,001,259	4.2028%	15/05/27
Total Bonds		73,885,639		

Total Internally managed investments	129,376,859
---	--------------------

2. Externally Managed Investments

Investment Fund	Book Cost (£)	Market Value (£) at	12-month return to	
		31-Mar-26	31-Mar-26	
			Income	Total
CCLA LAMIT Property Fund	60,000,000	55,257,290	4.6%	4.6%
CCLA Cautious Multi-Asset Fund (formerly DIF)	5,000,000	4,420,433	3.1%	-2.6%
Pyrford Global Total Return Fund	5,000,000	5,796,599	3.0%	8.8%
Fidelity Multi Asset Income Fund	25,000,000	23,227,280	5.1%	9.0%
Ninety-One (Investec) Diversified Income Fund	10,000,000	9,183,403	4.8%	6.0%
Aegon (KAMES) Diversified Monthly Income Fund	20,000,000	20,129,009	5.8%	14.1%
M&G Global Dividend Fund	10,000,000	18,507,874	3.3%	17.0%
Schroder Income Maximiser Fund	25,000,000	23,520,484	7.5%	15.0%
Threadneedle Global Equity Institutional Fund	10,000,000	14,525,444	2.5%	16.4%
Threadneedle UK Equity Income Fund	10,000,000	12,000,134	3.9%	11.3%
Total External Investments	180,000,000	186,567,950	4.7%	9.8%

3. Total Investments

Total Investments	£315,944,810
--------------------------	---------------------

GLOSSARY

Local Authority Treasury Management Terms

Bond	A certificate of long-term debt issued by a company, government, or other institution, which is tradable on financial markets
Borrowing	Usually refers to the stock of outstanding loans owed and bonds issued.
CFR	Capital Financing Requirement. A council's underlying need to hold debt for capital purposes, representing the cumulative capital expenditure that has been incurred but not yet financed. The CFR increases with capital expenditure and decreases with capital finance and MRP.
Capital gain or loss	An increase or decrease in the capital value of an investment, for example through movements in its market price.
Counterparty	The other party to a loan, investment or other contract.
Counterparty limit	The maximum amount an investor is willing to lend to a counterparty, in order to manage credit risk.
Covered bond	Bond issued by a financial institution that is secured on that institution's assets, usually residential mortgages, and is therefore lower risk than unsecured bonds. Covered bonds are exempt from bail-in.
CPI	Consumer Price Index - the measure of inflation targeted by the Monetary Policy Committee.
Deposit	A regulated placing of cash with a financial institution. Deposits are not tradable on financial markets.
Diversified income fund	A collective investment scheme that invests in a range of bonds, equity and property in order to minimise price risk, and also focuses on investments that pay income.
Dividend	Income paid to investors in shares and collective investment schemes. Dividends are not contractual, and the amount is therefore not known in advance.
DMADF	Debt Management Account Deposit Facility – a facility offered by the DMO enabling councils to deposit cash at very low credit risk. Not available in Northern Ireland.
DMO	Debt Management Office – an executive agency of HM Treasury that deals with central government's debt and investments.
Equity	An investment which usually confers ownership and voting rights
Floating rate note (FRN)	Bond where the interest rate changes at set intervals linked to a market variable, most commonly 3-month LIBOR or SONIA
FTSE	Financial Times stock exchange – a series of indices on the London Stock Exchange. The FTSE 100 is the index of the largest 100 companies on the exchange, the FTSE 250 is the next largest 250 and the FTSE 350 combines the two
GDP	Gross domestic product – the value of the national aggregate production of goods and services in the economy. Increasing GDP is known as economic growth.
Gilt	Bond issued by the UK Government, taking its name from the gilt-edged paper they were originally printed on.

Income return	Return on investment from dividends, interest and rent but excluding capital gains and losses.
IFRS	International Financial Reporting Standards, the set of accounting rules in use by UK local authorities since 2010
LIBID	London interbank bid rate - the benchmark interest rate at which banks bid to borrow cash from other banks, traditionally 0.125% lower than LIBOR.
LIBOR	London interbank offer rate - the benchmark interest rate at which banks offer to lend cash to other banks. Published every London working day at 11am for various currencies and terms. Due to be phased out by 2022.
LOBO	Lender's Option Borrower's option
MMF	Money Market Funds. A collective investment scheme which invests in a range of short-term assets providing high credit quality and high liquidity. Usually refers to Constant Net Asset Value (CNAV) and Low Volatility Net Asset Value (LVNAV) funds with a Weighted Average Maturity (WAM) under 60 days which offer instant access, but the European Union definition extends to include cash plus funds
Monetary Policy	Measures taken by central banks to boost or slow the economy, usually via changes in interest rates. Monetary easing refers to cuts in interest rates, making it cheaper for households and businesses to borrow and hence spend more, boosting the economy, while monetary tightening refers to the opposite. See also fiscal policy and quantitative easing.
MPC	Monetary Policy Committee. Committee of the Bank of England responsible for implementing monetary policy in the UK by changing Bank Rate and quantitative easing with the aim of keeping CPI inflation at around 2%.
MRP	Minimum Revenue Provision – an annual amount that local authorities are required to set aside and charge to revenue for the repayment of debt associated with capital expenditure. Local authorities are required by law to have regard to government guidance on MRP. Not applicable in Scotland, but see Loans Fund
Pooled Fund	Scheme in which multiple investors hold units or shares. The investment assets in the fund are not held directly by each investor, but as part of a pool (hence these funds are also referred to as 'pooled funds').
Prudential Code	Developed by CIPFA and introduced in April 2004 as a professional code of practice to support local authority capital investment planning within a clear, affordable, prudent and sustainable framework and in accordance with good professional practice. Local authorities are required by law to have regard to the Prudential Code. The Code was update din December 2021
PWLB	Public Works Loan Board – a statutory body operating within the Debt Management Office (DMO) that lends money from the National Loans Fund to councils and other prescribed bodies and collects the repayments. Not available in Northern Ireland.
Short-term	Usually means less than one year
SONIA	Based on actual transactions and reflects the average of the interest rates that banks pay to borrow sterling overnight from other financial institutions and other institutional investors
Total return	The overall return on an investment, including interest, dividends, rent, fees and capital gains and losses.
Weighted average life (WAL)	The weighted average time for principal repayment, that is, the average time it takes for every dollar of principal to be repaid. The time weights are based on the principal payments,

By: Joel Cook – Head of Democratic Services

To: County Council – 17 September 2026

Subject: Motions for Time Limited Debate

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary

County Council may consider and resolve Motions for Time Limited Debate submitted by Political Groups, in accordance with section 14.34 of the KCC Constitution.

Three Motions for Time Limited Debate are included in the agenda for the 17 September 2026 meeting of the Full Council.

1. In advance of each ordinary meeting of the Full Council, each Political Group may submit one Motion for Time Limited Debate for debate and decision. Motions are placed on the agenda in the order they are received by Democratic Services.
 2. Motions for Time Limited Debate are different from most normal Committee or Decision papers as they are not prepared by KCC Officers, which would involve standard assurances and operational guidance. The Motions and any Background Information supplied for context are developed and submitted by the Political Groups, who are responsible for their content. They are therefore prepared and considered on the basis that they are political matters, allowing the Council to debate and resolve political positions on a range of issues outside of the main substantive decision-making framework for functions within the responsibility of the County Council.
 3. The official adoption of any substantive changes, if relevant, to strategies or policies referenced in a Motion approved by Full Council, where applicable to matters for which the Council has powers and responsibilities, would be subject to separate and additional relevant governance processes and decision-making.
 4. A maximum of 45 minutes will be allowed for each debate. The Motions must meet the general requirements of Motions as set out in the constitution and the debate is conducted in accordance with normal procedure rules along with any relevant directions given by the Chairman of the Council.
 5. The submitted Motions for Time Limited Debate are appended to this covering report.
-

Recommendation:

The County Council is asked to consider and determine the submitted Motions for Time Limited Debate

Appendices:

1. MTLD – Liberal Democrat Group – Kent Resilience and Veterans
2. MTLD – Green Group – 20mph for Safer Communities
3. MTLD – Restore Britain Kent Group – Bus Pass Review

Report Author:

Joel Cook
Head of Democratic Services
03000 416892
Joel.cook@kent.gov.uk

Motion for Time Limited Debate: Veterans as a Strategic Reserve for Community Resilience

Proposer: Mr Richard Streatfeild, MBE

Seconder: Mr Antony Hook

Motion

This County Council resolves to:

1. Recommend that the Executive establish a Veterans Community Resilience Task and Finish Group to examine and identify the responsibilities the Council will have under the upcoming Armed Forces Bill and request the outcomes of this to be reported to the Policy and Resources Cabinet Committee.
2. Request that the Executive works with the Health and Wellbeing Board to explore and develop appropriate workstreams to better tackle veteran related health inequality, in line with the Armed Forces Covenant commitments to ensure that veterans and serving personnel are not disadvantaged in accessing health and relevant support services.
3. Request that the Kent & Medway Civilian-Military Partnership Board (KMCMPB), working with relevant partners, map the skills, experience and interests of veterans locally and identify practical ways in which veterans can contribute to domestic resilience, including emergency preparedness, community response, recovery support, mentoring, youth engagement, neighbourhood resilience, volunteering and civic leadership.
4. Encourage the Executive and relevant services to work with the Integrated Care Board, NHS partners, primary care, veterans' charities and local voluntary organisations to review and, where appropriate, strengthen pathways for veterans into physical health support, mental health and wellbeing services, suicide prevention and postvention support, rehabilitation, social prescribing, employment assistance and peer support.
5. Recommend that the Deputy Leader, works with partners across the Kent and Medway Resilience Forum to explore the development of a local Veterans Community Resilience Framework setting out how veterans can be brought together, supported and enabled to contribute safely and appropriately to local resilience activity, without replacing statutory emergency services or professional responders.
6. Recommend that the Deputy Leader explore the establishment of annual Veteran Community Resilience Days across the authority area, bringing together veterans, reservists, former regular personnel with Reserve Liability, emergency services, employers, cadet forces, community groups and local residents.

7. Ensure that the above referenced Veteran Community Resilience Days are designed to promote wellbeing and social connection; raise awareness of support services; encourage volunteering and civic participation; celebrate military service and local heritage; maintain bonds of comradeship and esprit de corps; and support pathways into Reserve service, mentoring, community leadership and resilience activity where appropriate.
8. Note the work already completed by the Kent & Medway Civilian-Military Partnership Board to identify veterans who may be isolated, under-supported, or facing service-related health needs, and request the KMCMPB, via its Health and Wellbeing Task Group, explore any connection between veteran deaths and military service to help inform the development of improved support options.
9. Encourage the Executive and relevant services to work with Kent-based Gurkha veterans, Gurkha community organisations and the Gurkha Welfare Trust, building on the established KCC commitments to support veterans under the Armed Forces Covenant, to identify the needs, strengths and contribution of Gurkha veterans and their families in Kent; improve culturally competent signposting into welfare, housing, health, benefits, translation, employment and social support; and ensure that Gurkha veterans are actively included in Armed Forces Covenant delivery, community resilience planning and local commemorative and civic activity.
10. Encourage the Executive and relevant services to work with Royal British Veterans Enterprise (RBVE) in Aylesford, recognising its long-standing work supporting veterans and their families through welfare provision, housing, employment, training, volunteering and community-building; and explore practical partnerships to strengthen referral pathways, employment support, skills development, supported accommodation links and opportunities for veterans to move towards independent living, purposeful activity and sustained work.
11. Request that progress on the above recommendations, in addition to any other Committee reporting on portfolio specific elements, is reported back to Full Council within twelve months as part of the Armed Forces Covenant reporting.

Background Information provided by the Liberal Democrat Group:

The Government's guidance on Health and Wellbeing Boards emphasises their role in assessing local health needs, reducing health inequalities, promoting partnership working, and shaping Joint Strategic Needs Assessments and Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategies. In parallel, the Armed Forces Covenant recognises that those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces, together with their families, should face no disadvantage compared with other citizens, while acknowledging that special consideration may be appropriate for those who have given most, including the injured and bereaved.

Veterans are not only a group who may require support; they are also a significant civic asset. They bring leadership, discipline, practical skills, operational experience, teamwork

and a strong ethos of public service into local communities. Many former members of the Armed Forces also continue to hold a statutory Reserve Liability after Regular Service, maintaining an enduring connection with national defence and the wider Armed Forces community.

At a time when domestic resilience increasingly depends on strong local networks, trusted volunteers, practical skills, public confidence, neighbourhood cohesion and the ability to mobilise community capacity during disruption or emergency, veterans have a valuable contribution to make. Their experience, values and sense of service can help strengthen local preparedness, response and recovery arrangements, while also supporting more connected and resilient communities.

Simultaneously, some veterans experience physical injury, mental health challenges, social isolation, bereavement, difficulties with transition, or barriers to employment and civic participation arising from, or connected with, their service. Early intervention, peer support, purposeful activity, social connection and clear routes into health, wellbeing and community services can help veterans participate fully in civilian life while continuing to contribute positively to society and local resilience.

The Liberal Democrat Group believes that veterans should be recognised as a strategic reserve within our communities: a pool of people whose experience, skills and values can strengthen local preparedness, response, recovery and community cohesion. To unlock that contribution, local authorities and partner organisations must actively bring veterans together, reduce isolation and create trusted pathways into peer support, volunteering, mentoring, emergency preparedness and civic leadership. Community resilience should therefore not treat veterans merely as recipients of support, but as active partners in building safer, stronger and more connected communities.

The Liberal Democrat Group further believes that where veterans face physical or mental health issues arising from service, the Council and its partners should help remove barriers to participation by improving signposting, referral pathways and coordination between health, housing, employment, welfare and voluntary sector support. Suicide prevention among veterans is inseparable from purposeful connection, early support, accessible mental health services, strong peer networks and opportunities to continue serving the public good. The period following discharge from Regular Service, including any period of Reserve Liability, also represents an important opportunity to maintain contact, promote wellbeing and support veterans into constructive local roles that benefit both the individual and the wider community.

This page is intentionally left blank

Motion for Time Limited Debate - 20mph for Safer Communities

Proposer: Mr Stuart Heaver

Seconded: Mr Mark Hood

This Council resolves to:

- 1) Support the continued policy of promoting lower speeds by design by working with developers through the planning and highway adoption processes to ensure that new residential developments are designed to operate with 20mph speed limits as the norm, except on appropriate arterial routes.
- 2) Support work to ensure that where developments have been designed to function safely and effectively with 20mph speed limits, Kent Highways makes the strongest possible recommendation for the subsequent designation of those limits through the Traffic Regulation Order process.
- 3) Recognise the positive contribution of the Vision Zero programme and commit to supporting the safety of Kent residents by seeking a continuation and extension of its principles and objectives, with a view to enabling successor councils to adopt and incorporate Vision Zero within their future transport and community safety strategies.
- 4) Call on the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport to work with the appropriate teams within the Growth, Environment and Transport Directorate to identify feasible locations for 20mph zone extensions in residential areas and town centres across Kent, and to present the findings to the Growth, Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee, as well as providing each Member with information relating to the division they represent.
- 5) Call on the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport to allocate an appropriate budget to support the expansion of 20mph schemes across Kent.
- 6) Call on the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport to explore the technical and legal feasibility of establishing a long-term target of 20mph limits on 75% of Kent's residential roads by 2030 and report on the outcomes to the Growth, Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee.
- 7) Recommend that, subject to technical viability, the Cabinet Member develop a Strategy to deliver against the 2030 target.

Background Information Provided by the Green Group:

The safety of Kent's residents is a fundamental responsibility of this council. Recent tragic incidents on Kent's roads have reinforced concerns about road safety in our towns and residential communities. Members receive correspondence and engage in many conversations with residents in their divisions who express great concerns about speeding and the importance of road safety. These concerns underline the need to take proactive measures to reduce risk and improve safety for all road users.

Vision Zero is the road safety strategy for Kent which focusses on reducing deaths and serious injuries on our roads. The impact of any collision is minimised by the reduction of the speed of the vehicles involved. We are told that developers work with Kent Highways officers to ensure that new developments are designed to be 20mph compliant by design, but when the developments are complete, they often operate at higher speed limits. This seems counterintuitive, if the development has been purposefully designed to encourage lower speeds then signage and speed limits should be used to reinforce the message that 20mph is the safest speed in an urban environment.

Motion to Kent County Council: Extension of Free Bus Travel for Concessionary Pass Holders Before 9:30am

Proposed by: Cllr Oliver Bradshaw

Seconded by: Cllr Robert Ford

Motion

This Council Resolves:

1. To request that the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport commission a feasibility study into extending free concessionary bus travel for eligible pass holders before 9:30am on local bus services within Kent.
2. That the feasibility study should assess:
 - a) The anticipated financial implications for Kent County Council;
 - b) The impact on bus operator capacity and service provision;
 - c) Potential health and wellbeing benefits, including improved access to healthcare and reduced social isolation;
 - d) Potential economic benefits to town centres, local businesses and the voluntary sector;
 - e) Potential environmental benefits arising from increased public transport use.
3. That the study should involve appropriate engagement with relevant stakeholders, including bus operators, NHS partners, district and borough councils, Age UK, Healthwatch Kent and other community organisations to gather necessary information.
4. That the Cabinet Member be asked to report the findings and recommendations of the feasibility study to the appropriate Committee within six months, including outlining any options for implementation and funding should a viable proposal be identified.

Background Information – Provided by the Restore Britain Kent Group

The Restore Britain Kent Group notes that:

1. The English National Concessionary Travel Scheme (ENCTS) provides free bus travel for eligible older and disabled residents from 9:30am on weekdays and throughout weekends and bank holidays.
2. That local transport authorities have discretionary powers to enhance these arrangements and provide additional concessionary travel benefits beyond the statutory minimum.

3. That many older and disabled residents rely on public transport to attend healthcare appointments, undertake caring responsibilities, volunteer within their communities, participate in employment, and access essential services.
4. That Kent faces ongoing challenges relating to social isolation, transport accessibility, public health, congestion, air quality and carbon emissions.
5. That barriers to travel before 9:30am can disproportionately affect older and disabled residents who need to travel early in the day.

The Restore Britain Kent Group Believes:

1. That accessible and affordable public transport plays an essential role in enabling older and disabled residents to remain independent, active and connected within their communities.
2. That reducing barriers to early morning travel could improve access to healthcare, employment, volunteering opportunities and family responsibilities.
3. That enhanced concessionary travel may contribute to reducing loneliness and social isolation and support wider health and wellbeing objectives.
4. That encouraging greater use of public transport can support local high streets, reduce dependence on private vehicles and contribute towards environmental objectives.
5. That any proposal to extend concessionary travel must be supported by robust evidence regarding costs, demand, operational impacts and potential benefits.