



## **FORWARD PLAN OF DECISIONS**

Each month the Council publishes a Forward Plan of Decisions expected to be taken during the following six months.

A “Key Decision” is an Executive-side Decision which is likely to:

- (a) result in the council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the council’s budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- (b) be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more electoral divisions in the area of the local authority.

Key Decisions can only be taken by the Cabinet, the Leader or an individual Cabinet Member.

Decisions which should be regarded as Key Decisions because they are likely to have a significant effect either in financial terms or on the Council’s services to the community include:

- (a) Decisions about expenditure or savings over £1,000,000 which are not provided for within the approved budget or Medium Term Financial Plan
- (b) Adoption of major new policies not already included in the Policy Framework (Constitution Appendix 3) or changes to established policies
- (c) Approval of management and business plans
- (d) Decisions that involve significant service developments, significant service reductions, or significant changes in the way that services are delivered, whether County-wide or in a particular locality. For example, closure of a school, approval of a major project (such as a highway scheme) or programme of works, major changes in the eligibility criteria for provision of a service, major changes in the fees charged for a service, or proposals that would result in a service currently provided in-house being outsourced.
- (e) Decisions where the consequences are likely to result in compulsory redundancies or major changes in the terms and conditions of employment of a significant number of employees in any of the Council’s functions.

Preparation of the Forward Plan helps the Council to programme its work and ensures compliance with the Local Government Act 2000. Every month, the period covered by the Plan will be rolled forward by one month and the plan will be republished.

The Plan outlines the consultation that is proposed in respect of future decisions and who members of the public and the Council should contact to make comments on any particular item. Anyone is entitled to obtain copies of the documents that will be relied upon when a decision is taken, unless those documents are ‘Exempt’ within the meaning of the relevant sections of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

Reports related to decisions will be published on the Council's web site at [www.kent.gov.uk](http://www.kent.gov.uk) at least five days before the decision it is due to be taken. Once the decision has been taken, a copy of the Record of Decision will also be published on the Council's website.

Mr Roger Gough	Leader of the Council
Mr Peter Oakford	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services
Mrs Clair Bell	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health
Miss Susan Carey	Cabinet Member for Environment
Mrs Sue Chandler	Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services
Mr Mike Hill	Cabinet Member for Community and Regulatory Services
Mrs Shellina Prendergast	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills
Mr David Brazier	Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport
Mr Bryan Sweetland	Cabinet Member for Communications, Engagement and People
Mr Derek Murphy	Cabinet Member for Economic Development

All Members can be contacted by writing to Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ or by email via the Council's website.



**NEW**

**NOT BEFORE 10 SEPTEMBER 2021**

<p><b>Responsible Cabinet Member</b> - Cabinet Member for Education and Skills</p> <p><b>Reference No:</b> Any legal implications will be identified in the report to the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education before he takes his decision.</p> <p><b>Key</b> Yes</p>
<p><b>Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.</b></p>
<p><b>Title:</b> <b>21/00070 - Proposal to expand Whitstable and Seasalter Endowed CE Junior School from 192 places to 240 places, increasing the published admission number (PAN) from 48 to 60 for Year three entry in September 2022</b></p> <p><b>The Decision needed:</b> Proposed decision –</p> <p>(i) Issue a public notice to permanently expand Whitstable and Seasalter Endowed CE Junior School from 48 to 60 PAN from September 2022.</p> <p>And, subject to no objections being received to the public notice</p> <p>(ii) Expand Whitstable and Seasalter Endowed CE Junior School from 48 to 60 PAN from September 2022.</p> <p>(iii) agree to provide £1.5 million from the Children’s, Young People and Education Capital Budget for the permanent expansion of Whitstable and Seasalter Endowed CE Junior School from 48 to 60 PAN from September 2022.</p> <p>(iv) Authorise the Director of Infrastructure, Strategic and Corporate Services in consultation with the General Counsel and Director of Education to enter into any necessary contracts / agreements on behalf of the County Council.</p> <p>(v) Authorise the Director of Infrastructure, Strategic and Corporate Services to be the nominated Authority Representative within the relevant agreements and to enter into variations as envisaged under the contracts.</p> <p>This decision is conditional upon planning permission being granted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reason for the decision To agree to provide £1.5m from the Children’s, Young People and Education</li></ul>

Capital Budget for the permanent expansion of *Whitstable and Seasalter Endowed CE Junior School* from 48 to 60 PAN from September 2021. Decision is required to publish a public notice and to proceed with the project as the project costs have increased to £1.5m

- Background – Provide brief additional context

Whitstable has two junior schools and they historically have operated for many years with organisationally inoperable Published Admission Numbers (the number of pupils it can take in each year group). In December 2018 Whitstable Junior School ran a consultation to reduce its Published Admission Number from 75 to 60 with effect from September 2020 onwards. This reduction was agreed by the Schools Adjudicator but was conditional on Whitstable and Seasalter CE Endowed consulting on a proposal to increase its PAN from 48 to 60 to ensure that there were sufficient Junior places to match the number of places in the Whitstable Infant schools. This proposal will ensure the financial viability of both junior and infant schools in Whitstable and ensure that all children attending the infant schools can have the opportunity to move onto a Whitstable Junior school. Whitstable and Seasalter Endowed CE Junior School is a popular school judged “Outstanding” by Ofsted.

A report was taken to Children, Young people and education Cabinet Committee on 15 January 2021 as it was envisaged that planning was to be submitted in February. Due to a number of factors including Covid, method of construction, roofing and drainage issues have all contributed to the costs of the project increasing and planning permission not being submitted until 1 June 2021.

- Options (other options considered but discarded)

There are only two junior schools in Whitstable and therefore there were no other options available.

- How the proposed decision meets the objectives of ‘Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes: Kent County Council’s Strategic Statement (2015-2020)’

This proposal will help to secure our ambition “to ensure that Kent’s young people have access to the education, work and skills opportunities necessary to support Kent business to grow and be increasingly competitive in the national and international economy”

The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent 2020-2024 sets out the need for commissioning additional school places.

## **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

### **Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

### **Date:**

Not before September 2021

### **Reason if Key Decision**

An Equality Impact Assessment has been produced as part of the consultation process and is attached. The assessment identified the following positive impacts:

- Sufficient local junior provision for children in Whitstable.
- Future financial viability of the school.

No adverse impacts were identified during the assessment. The outcome of the public consultation and community consultation will enable the Local Authority to test out these assumptions.

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

**Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

**Consultees**

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

A feasibility study and final cost at planning stage have been received. The costs of this project have been valued at£1.5m. The project includes both refurbishment and new build. Two new classrooms will be created using the existing kitchen, dining hall and conservatory space and the children’s toilets and library will be refurbished. A new, separate new building will be built to house a new kitchen and dining hall together with additional parking spaces. As per KCC policy, a total of £6,000 per new classroom will be provided to the school from the DGS revenue budget.

**Support documents**

**Responsible Cabinet Member - Cabinet Member for Education and Skills**

**Reference No:** Any legal implications will be identified and reported in the Children and Young People’s Cabinet Committee Report.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**21/00069 - Proposal to permanently expand Borden Grammar School, Avenue of Remembrance, Sittingbourne, ME10 4DB**

## from 120 places to 150 places for September 2022

### The Decision needed:

Proposed decision.

- i. agree to provide £4,930,041 from the Children, Young People and Education Capital Budget for the permanent expansion of Highsted Grammar School by 1FE for September 2022.
- ii. Authorise the Director of Infrastructure, Strategic and Corporate Services in consultation with the General Counsel and Director of Education to enter into any necessary contracts / agreements on behalf of the County Council.
- iii. Authorise the Director of Infrastructure, Strategic and Corporate Services to be the nominated Authority Representative within the relevant agreements and to enter into variations as envisaged under the contracts.

- Reason for the decision

To allocate £4,930,041 from the Capital budget for the expansion of Borden Grammar school by 1FE from September 2022. The figure of £4,930,041 will be finalised following the planning process, in the report to the Children and Young People's Cabinet Committee Report.

- Background

The Kent Commissioning Plan 2021-2025 identified the need for additional selective places for the Sittingbourne and Sheppey Planning group. Forecasts indicated a deficit of up to 64 Year 7 places for 2022 and a continual need through the plan period of between 1.5FE and 2.5FE of additional selective school places. Discussions have been held with both grammar schools in Sittingbourne and each school has agreed to progress a 1FE expansion, delivering a total of 60 additional places from September 2022.

- Options (other options considered but discarded)

There are two grammar schools in Sittingbourne, and they have both agreed to a 1FE expansion. Neighbouring planning groups, including Faversham and Canterbury Selective and Maidstone Selective planning group, have a deficit of year 7 places.

- How the proposed decision meets the objectives of 'Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes: Kent County Council's Strategic Statement (2015-2020)'

This proposal will help to secure our ambition "to ensure that Kent's young people have access to the education, work and skills opportunities necessary to support Kent business to grow and be increasingly competitive in the national and international economy" as set out in 'Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes: Kent County Council's Strategic Statement (2017 - 2022)'.

The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent 2021-2 identified the need to commission additional capacity in Sittingbourne Selective



Schools.
<b>Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when</b>
<p><b>Who is taking the Decision</b> Cabinet Member for Education and Skills</p> <p><b>Date:</b> Not before September 2021</p> <p><b>Reason if Key Decision</b> An Equality Impact Assessment has been produced and the assessment identified the following positive impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sufficient year 7 places will be provided for Grammar pupils.</li> <li>• Year 7 pupils will be able attend Grammar school provisions in their locality.</li> <li>• More pupils will be able to attend a good or outstanding school.</li> </ul> <p>No adverse impacts were identified during the assessment.</p> <p><b>Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan</b></p>
<b>Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors</b>
<b>Consultees</b>
<b>Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.</b>
<p><b>Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:</b> The capital allocation of £4,930,041 is to deliver a programme providing the additional general and specialist classrooms plus a new sports hall required to meet the additional pupil place need. The school’s current published admission number (PAN) is 120. The £4,930,041 has been agreed based on a full feasibility and curriculum analysis against BB103 requirements for a 5FE school. This figure is in line with the DfE’s benchmark figures for an expansion of a secondary school by 1FE.</p> <p><b>Support documents</b></p>

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services

**Reference No:** This work is taking place, in part, due to the Ofsted and Care Quality Commission (CQC) joint review of SEND provision for Kent CYP and the resulting Written Statement of Action (WSOA) KCC implemented to address the concerns of the review. The proposed new Offer is a result of several areas found lacking in the review which are addressed through the WSoA alongside direct feedback from the Working Group.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**21/00067 - Supporting Parents to Build Resilience and Self-Help Strategies**

**The Decision needed:**

- Proposed Decision: To commission a dedicated service that offers robust and consistent support to parents whose child has either received a diagnosis, awaiting diagnosis, or considering a referral to the Neurodevelopmental (ND) Pathway. The scope of the new service aims to address the issues raised by parents by offering a range of options that can be delivered in addition to services currently on offer across the County. The Key Decision is to allow Commissioners to commence formal procurement activity to tender for a service, award a contract and develop internal provision for ownership and oversight of the activity.

**Background:**

- This proposal is to develop a new dedicated service that offers robust and consistent support to parents who are concerned their child may require some additional support, linked to Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC).
- The Service will be facilitated jointly by parents, utilising lived experience, building resilience and developing self-help strategies amongst fellow parents. The overarching aim of the service is to reduce the emphasis on needing to wait for diagnosis before being able to access support, in turn it is hoped that this will have a positive impact on the diagnosis backlog and waiting lists.
- In January 2021 a working group was set up with multi-agency partners and parent representatives to co-produce key components required of the new Model. This group captured good practice, issues, and current gaps in the provision.
- In addition to the development of the 'Supporting Parents Service', this

work will be used to further support future SEND inspections.

- Partners included, but not limited to, Kent PACT, Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Information Advice and Support Kent, Specialist Teaching and Learning Service, Voluntary and Community Sector, Public Health, Disabled Children and Young People Services, SEN Early Years, Early Help, Adolescent and Open Access.
- The scope of the proposed new service aims to address the issues raised by parents and carers by offering a range of options that can be delivered in addition to services currently on offer across the County.
- The SEND inspection of 2019 highlighted issues regarding the following:
  - The widely held concern of parents that the local area is not able, or in some cases not willing, to meet their children's need.
  - The limited role parents and carers have in reviewing and designing services for children and young people with SEND.
- Key to delivery will be facilitators with lived experience. Parents as service users have robustly reported that it is lived experience that is key to the success of their engagement with the programmes. In addition, having parents at the heart of delivery will ensure continuous improvement of the Offer.
- Following discussions with Kent & Medway CCG, they support the proposed Model and have agreed to add £100,000 to the funding pot for each year of the contract/Service Level Agreement, to support a Countywide multi-disciplinary ND resource.
- **Year One of this provision will focus on children and young people currently in receipt of an Integrated Children's Service intervention. The new service will increase the total Countywide Offer to parents by 42%.**
- **Whilst it is not anticipated to reduce demand, the overarching aim is to reduce levels of anxiety and reduce those parents reaching crisis point whilst on the waiting list. This work will also join up with the Parent and Place Workshops that will bring together a range of professionals that parents can access as part of their ND journey. The Model will include provision for a KCC Countywide Co-Ordinator post, whose primary objective will be to develop, join up and expand the parenting offer.**

#### Options

##### 1. Do Nothing:

Support and advice to parents relating to the ND Pathway will continue to be fragmented, inconsistent across the County and difficult to find, resulting in a postcode lottery and additional stress for parents and families.

##### 2. Create the new service In-House:

This option may impact on the capacity within teams, with the risk of staff being pulled back to their 'day job.' Also, parents have told us they are nervous/not likely to approach KCC regarding initial worries and support

delivered with lived experience is more meaningful.

3. Externally commission the new service via Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS):

VCS are already set up to deliver the whole range of support to parents/families and benefit from long-standing relationships with parents as well as being very experienced in managing volunteers. Robust contract management will be in place.

4. Hybrid Model - Externally commission the new service via VCS – with additional oversight via KCC Co-ordinator post:

As above in Option 3, with additional dedicated KCC Service Co-ordinator post for robust oversight of whole County Offer. Service provision will be in addition to current in-house delivery.

Risks

- The main risk is to do nothing. The numbers awaiting diagnosis have doubled during COVID with a wait time between two and a half and three years. The overarching aim of the new service is to support parents to build resilience and robust strategies that help to reduce levels of anxiety and reduce those parents reaching crisis point whilst on the waiting list.

**Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

**Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services

**Date:**

Not before August 2021

**Reason if Key Decision**

An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) screening has been completed and has concluded that the proposed decision does not present any adverse equality impact.

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

**Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

**Consultees**

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

On 15 November 2019 CYPE Cabinet Committee approved for funding originally badged against the Early Help pathway within the Children and

Young People Mental Health (CYPMH) contract to be repurposed, with the aim of reducing the burden on the ASC pathway.

Total funding available is £500,000:  
£400,000 (From the Early Help Pathway in CYPMH contract) with the addition of £100,000 funding from Kent and Medway CCG per year for the length of the contract/Service Level Agreement.

### **Support documents**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

**Reference No:** None

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**21/00066 - Kent Active Travel scheme - Cinque Ports Phase 5 - A259 Palmarsh to Dymchurch Redoubt forming part of the proposed Cinque Ports cycle path between Folkestone and Lydd**

**The Decision needed:**

Proposed decision:

The Cabinet Member for Highways & Transport is asked to give approval to proceed to construction of this scheme, subject to land negotiations with the Ministry of Defence being agreed upon and;

specifically, to:

- i) give approval to progress all statutory approvals or consents required for the scheme;
- ii) give approval to progress with the necessary land acquisitions required to deliver the scheme – likely to be a deed of dedication rather than a land transfer;
- iii) give approval to enter into construction contracts as necessary for the delivery of the scheme

I also agree to delegate authority to Corporate Director of GET, in consultation with the Corporate Director of Finance & Procurement, to enter into relevant legal agreements and take other actions necessary to implement this decision.

- Reason: To seek approval from Cabinet Members of the Council to proceed to construction for phase 5 of the Folkestone to Lydd cycle facility.
- Background: The Department for Transport have awarded Kent County Council £6.098m for five named active travel schemes across the County of which £1,220,000 is for Phase 5 of the Folkestone to Lydd cycle facility known as the Cinque Ports cycle path which aims to provide a continuous walking and cycling route.
- To date the cycle path has been constructed between Folkestone and Palmarsh using Local Growth Fund.
- How the proposed decision meets the priority actions of Setting the Course: Kent County Council's Interim Strategic Plan (December 2020). The proposal meets the priority action to consider the appropriate use of active travel schemes (walking and cycling) within the development of the new Local Transport Plan.

**Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

**Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

**Date:**

Not before August 2021

**Reason if Key Decision**

An initial EQIA screening has been carried out as part of the initial consultation and will be regularly updated.

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

**Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

**Consultees**

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

The DfT grant will fully cover both the capital and revenue costs associated with the scheme as per current designs; the schemes' costs are scalable to suit the budget available.

**Support documents**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

**Reference No:** KIDAS contributes to the council's response to the Home Office's 'Call to End Violence Against Women and Girls' Strategy, with the main themes focussing on:

- prevention
- the provision of good quality services and
- improved partnership working

The Domestic Abuse Act received Royal Assent on 29 April 2021 Under the new statutory duties, KCC must ensure appropriate and adequate support within safe accommodation that meets the needs of all victims.

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**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**  
**21/00063 - Kent Integrated Domestic Abuse Service (KIDAS) contract extension**

**The Decision needed:**

**Proposed decision:**

To use the first of the two, two year options to extend the Kent Integrated Domestic Abuse (KIDAS) contract to 31 March 2024 and delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Adult Social Care and Health to use the second two year option, subject to market testing and good performance, to extend the KIDAS Contract to 31 March 2026, should it be required.

**Background:**

It has not been possible to bring this decision to an earlier Cabinet Committee due to the timing of the Domestic Abuse Act legislation and accompanying guidance. Whilst Domestic Abuse Act legislation received Royal Assent in April, the guidance about the new legal obligations was not published until mid-June and the government's consultation period on this guidance does not conclude until 27 July. It is this guidance that enables the council to judge whether the existing contractual arrangements are best placed to meet its newly acquired responsibilities. With no cabinet committee date between June and September, taking the decision out of cycle gives members the most time to make any

alternative recommendations, should they wish. A delay until the September committee would mean the decision could not be taken and implemented until the end of October which will leave members with little alternative but to extend.

The current term of the Kent Integrated Domestic Abuse Service (KIDAS) contract is due to expire on 31 March 2022. The contract has options to extend to 31 March 2026. The performance of the contract has been evaluated and found to be good. It is evidently delivering positive outcomes for victims of domestic abuse. The council has been allocated over £3m in new funding for 2021/22 in relation to the new statutory responsibilities under the Domestic Abuse Act.

With the guidance now published, the KIDAS contract is the ideal vehicle to use this money effectively and compliantly. It is recommended that the council exercise the option to extend the KIDAS contract contained within the contract. The first contract extension runs to 31 March 2024 at a value of £4,636,690.40. The second two-year extension available will be subsequently needed, subject to good performance and market testing. This will enable the council to respond to the future government plans for this agenda. This extension will run to 31 March 2026 and its value is £4,636,690.40.

**Reason for the decision:** The current term of the Kent Integrated Domestic Abuse Service (KIDAS) contract is due to expire on 31 March 2022. The performance of the Kent Integrated Domestic Abuse Service (KIDAS) contract has been evaluated and found to be good. The contract provides an ideal vehicle to mobilise the 2021/22 new funding allocation and effectively and compliantly to support the council in delivering its new statutory duties under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021. The contract has two options to extend. The first contract extension runs to 31 March 2024 at a value of £4,636,690.40.

The second two-year extension available will be subsequently needed, subject to good performance and market testing. This will enable the council to respond to the future government plans for this agenda. This extension will run to 31 March 2026 and its value is £4,636,690.40.

## Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when

### Who is taking the Decision

Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

### Date:

Not before August 2021

### Reason if Key Decision

An EQIA was completed for the commissioning of the Kent Integrated Domestic Abuse Service and is being revised as part of the Needs Assessment and Strategy work which will be published by 31 October 2021.



Data Protection implications: There are no anticipated data implications associated with these decisions, as there will not be a change to current services, or the data collected or shared, and therefore this will be covered under existing contract clauses.

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

**Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

**Consultees**

The proposed decision cannot reasonably be deferred until the next meeting of the Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee, however all members of the Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee will have an opportunity to comment on the proposed decision and these comments will be included in the record of decision. The decision will be reported retrospectively to the Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee on 29 September 2021.

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

The cost to extend the Kent Integrated Domestic Abuse Service (KIDAS), until 31 March 2024, is £4,636,690.40. The second extension to run to 31 March 2026 is valued at £4,636,690.40

**Support documents**

PROD Kent Integrated Domestic Abuse Service Contract Extension  
Recommendation Report Kent Integrated Domestic Abuse Service Contract Extension

**NOT BEFORE 13 AUGUST 2021**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

**Reference No:** KCC will be entering into a funding agreement with Ebbsfleet Development Corporation detailing the conditions of the grant funding.

No further legal implications have been identified.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:****21/00065 - Bath Street - Fastrack Infrastructure Scheme****The Decision needed:**

The Cabinet Member for Highways & Transport is asked to give approval to accept the capital grant from Ebbsfleet Development Company and to take the Bath Street scheme through the stages of development and delivery as indicated on the proposed decision sheet attached at Appendix A and specifically for:

- i. Approval for KCC to enter into a funding agreement with EDC subject to the approval of the Corporate Director of Finance, Corporate & Strategic Services
- ii. Approval to undertake the detailed design and surveys for the Bath Street Scheme.
- iii. Approval to progress all statutory approvals or consents required for the schemes, including any transfer of land and rights;
- iv. Approval to carry out any additional consultation required for the scheme;
- v. Approval to enter into construction contracts as necessary for the delivery and future maintenance of the scheme subject to a review of the procurement strategy by the Capital Officers Group;
- vi. Approval for any further decisions required to allow the scheme to proceed through to delivery to be taken by the Corporate Director of Growth, Environment & Transport under the Officer Scheme of Delegations following prior consultation with the Cabinet Member.

**Background**

This fully funded scheme proposes to implement a key Fastrack link between the Northfleet Embankment East development and Gravesham Town Centre in the form of a contraflow bus lane in Bath Street.

The scheme is part of the overall Fastrack programme, which comprises 28 individual projects across Dartford, Gravesham and Ebbsfleet. Fastrack operates via congestion-free routes across a 40km network extending from Dartford to Gravesham. It is a combination of dedicated Fastrack busways, bus priority lanes and on-street running with priority at all signalled junctions.

The purpose of the scheme is to improve journey times for Fastrack passengers and facilitate additional bus stops for existing residents and those from new developments such as Clifton Slipways, The Charter and Northfleet Embankment.

**Options**

EDC and KCC have considered options for the scale of the Bath Street scheme within the business case for the project. The following options

were considered:

- No implementation of the Fastrack A Route extension
- Extension of the Fastrack A Route with routing via Overcliffe
- (Chosen option) Extension of Fastrack Route A, including the road improvement schemes and the routing of the network via West Street and Bath Street.

The chosen option will reduce journey times for passengers and provide a short walk to access the Fastrack service for occupants and workers at the Northfleet Embankment East, Clifton Slipways and The Charter developments.

In addition to the expected journey time benefits, the appraisal exercise identified other potential beneficial effects that the scheme may generate including:

- Additional demand from new developments served by the new route.
- Operating cost savings derived from the journey time savings

### **Strategic Fit**

Implementation of the scheme will support the Council in meeting its Strategic outcome for “Kent Communities to feel the benefits of economic growth by being in work, healthy and enjoying a good quality of life”. This will be achieved through the projects supporting continued operation of key transport networks in Dartford and Gravesham, as well as helping support growth by enabling new residential and commercial development.

The key priorities set out in the County Council’s Integrated Transport Strategy ‘Delivering Growth without Gridlock’ in terms of providing additional highway capacity, improving accessibility and reducing congestion will also be supported through the delivery of the project. The scheme will set out to provide improved growth and economic prosperity through having an efficient highway and transport infrastructure.

The scheme also aligns with ‘Bus Back Better’ the Department for Transport’s National Bus Strategy which encourages ‘significant increases in bus priority’ through investment in bus lanes and traffic signal priority for buses (Chapter 3, Page 46).

## **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

### **Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

### **Date:**

Not before August 2021

### **Reason if Key Decision**

An initial equalities impact assessment has been carried out for the scheme. This identified no long-term adverse impacts or discrimination against any person with a protected characteristic.

In addition, those members of the public who regularly use or rely exclusively on public transport should experience more reliable journey times by better functioning of Fastrack route junctions.

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

**Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

**Consultees**

Gravesham Joint Transport Board (JTB) were provided with a report for information at the March 2021 meeting, with a letter also sent to Cllr John Burden.

Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee endorsed the proposed decision at its meeting on 29 June 2021.

Local Members were consulted via the Fastrack advisory board.

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

The scheme will be fully funded through a capital grant from Ebbsfleet Development Corporation (EDC) that has been approved as a separate future year commitment to EDC by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).

Ebbsfleet Development Corporation is providing KCC with a grant of £5.52m between 2020/21 and 2022/23 to deliver the scheme.

Conditions of the grant agreement include taking the Fastrack development designated S106 contributions from Northfleet Embankment East development as a contribution (circa £0.99m) but without risk to KCC if the funding does not come forward.

There is no revenue or capital exposure to KCC in the delivery of this project and the project estimate includes sufficient risk allowance. KCC Officer time required for the delivery of the programme will be capitalised.

**Support documents**

<p><b>Responsible Cabinet Member</b> - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services</p> <p><b>Reference No:</b> Investment is required in Sessions House to achieve minimum statutory compliance if it were to reopen. The proposed option will meet the Council's obligations to its staff in terms of accessibility, inclusion and its environmental objectives. Paragraph C of the decision will require a legal assessment of the options and ownership that will be included in any final decisions that are taken.</p> <p>Work to current properties will require the usual statutory approvals associated with building projects and will follow the Council's governance processes.</p> <p><b>Key</b> Yes</p>
<p><b>Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.</b></p>
<p><b>Title:</b> <b>21/00064 - Property Accommodation Strategy - SHQ</b></p> <p><b>The Decision needed:</b> <b>Proposed decision to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) AGREE that the political priorities in any preferred option for the future of Sessions House include:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. The retention of the County Council's strategic headquarters in Maidstone</li><li>ii. The modernisation and expansion of Invicta House as the main staff accommodation hub for Maidstone with office hubs located in other districts sized accordingly.</li><li>iii. The provision of civic accommodation in Sessions House Block C and D (Central Core)</li></ul></li> <li>b) AGREE to allocate £2,082,000 from the capital feasibility MTFP allocation to enable the further testing and the development of a detailed financial and legal assessment and feasibility work to RIBA stage 3 for the preferred option before final detailed proposals are provided to Cabinet for a final decision to be taken.</li></ul> <p>AGREE that the Director of Infrastructure shall work with key stakeholders to test the feasibility of future alternative uses for Sessions House with detailed proposals (financially and legally assessed) to be included as part of the proposals at b above.</p> <p><b>Background:</b></p>

The Executive believe that Sessions House requires significant investment to address the building condition issues, deliver accommodation which is fit for purpose and meets our environmental commitments.

An options appraisal was undertaken based on the pre-pandemic working styles during early 2020. It was agreed that this would be revisited, taking into account the changes in the way that we need to work post pandemic and a new accommodation model has been developed which allows a number of new options to be considered.

The Executive have considered the options, the key policy drivers and subject to the more detailed financial and technical due diligence, have selected a Preferred Option, which will see investment in Invicta House as the key staff hub in Maidstone, with Members' accommodation being provided from the civic core in Block C and D in Sessions House. The remaining key offices across the estate will be sized accordingly. Blocks A and B (the wings) of Sessions House will be considered as part of the wider master planning along with Maidstone East.

**Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

**Who is taking the Decision**

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services

**Date:**

Not before August 2021

**Reason if Key Decision**

An EqlA has been undertaken which indicates that the proposals have no adverse impact. It should be noted that Sessions House is one of the most challenging buildings in the estate when it comes to accessibility of users and this decision will enable a greater level of compliance.

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

The proposed decision was considered and endorsed by Policy & Resources Cabinet Committee on 13 July 2021.

**Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

**Consultees**

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**  
 Net Present Value for the options has been calculated to date on an initial financial assessment, a range of assumptions and high-level indicative cost estimates. Further financial due diligence is being undertaken to ensure

consistency of approach and calculations for all options considered together with a review of the qualitative assessments. The feasibility work to RIBA stage 3 will provide more detail of capital and revenue costs which will then be assessed to ensure value for money is achieved.

The capital programme includes an allocation which can be used to support the feasibility work to RIBA stage 3 for Invicta House and Sessions House.

To support the development of other uses at Sessions House a bid has been made to the Community Renewal Fund, to secure funding to support the feasibility work to look at alternative options for Sessions House within the wider context of the Maidstone East Redevelopment. The outcome of the bid is expected to be known after July 2021.

**Support documents**

21-00064 PROD Property Accommodation Strategy - SHQ  
21-00064 Executive Decision report to Mr Oakford  
EXEMPT SHQ Appendix

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Leader of the Council

**Reference No:** The service has been delegated under the Local Government Act for a period of 5 years.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**21/00061 - Kent County Council / Tonbridge and Malling BC Internal Audit and Counter Fraud Service**

**The Decision needed:**

Proposed decision –

Leader of the Council to agree to enter an Inter-Agency Agreement with Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council to provide Internal Audit and Counter Fraud on their behalf.

Kent County Council (KCC) have been providing the management for the Internal Audit and Counter Fraud services in Tonbridge and Malling (TMBC) for 6 years. During this time, the performance of the team has been strong and this has been demonstrated in the delivery of annual plans and achievement of service performance indicators. At the last External Quality Assessment, the function was assessed as compliant with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards and service improvements were made subsequently.

There is an opportunity to further build upon the current management

arrangement and, in doing so, provide TMBC with greater stability and for KCC to realise the full benefits of maintaining the number and breadth of experience of their Internal Audit team from being part of a wider shared service arrangement.

In order to further build the resilience and future development of the Internal Audit service, it is proposed that the TMBC fully delegate the function to KCC under the Local Government act 1972. Through the arrangement the delegated service would report to the TMBC executive and governance structure.

#### Options

Three Options considered

Option 1 Maintain current secondment agreements. This would retain the management of the TMBC Internal Audit and Counter Fraud function with other staff seconded to supplement delivery. This would reduce staff resources and expertise for KCC as staff would solely be reporting to TMBC and not able to be utilised by KCC.

Option 2 Cease secondments to TMBC and no longer provide management capacity for the Borough Council. This would reduce income for the Internal Audit and Counter Fraud and reduce staff resources and expertise.

The preferred option will allow resources to be shared over delivery of the service to both Councils and provide the following benefits:

- A stable, longer term arrangement enables KCC Internal Audit to allocate resources to TMBC and build a robust staffing structure that includes a wider range of skills and experience and will be able to consistently accommodate work across both Councils.
- Maximise the use of our resources, efficiencies, and the capacity of our team.
- Opportunities for auditors and fraud specialists to further widen their experience of different authorities and share good practice in local government services elsewhere.
- Making use of the excellent skills and knowledge in the TMBC Internal Audit and Counter Fraud Team across the wider KCC team.
- Increase resilience within the function.

## Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when

### Who is taking the Decision

Leader of the Council

### Date:

Not before August 2021

### Reason if Key Decision

2 members of TMBC staff will be transferred to KCC. An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed and no issues identified.



<b>Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan</b>
<b>Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors</b>
<b>Consultees</b>
<b>Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.</b>
<p><b>Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:</b>  TMBC will pay KCC per year based on the size of the 2021/22 Tonbridge and Malling Internal Audit and Counter Fraud Plan. This will be reviewed annually, based on changes in the size of the annual plan.</p> <p><b>Support documents</b>  21-0061 PROD  21-0061 Decision Report</p>

<p><b>Responsible Cabinet Member - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services</b></p> <p><b>Reference No:</b> Legal documentation will be actioned to implement the sale. External legal advice on the advice of general council has been sought.</p> <p><b>Key</b> Yes</p>
<b>Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.</b>
<p><b>Title:</b>  <b>21/00060 - Disposal of Land at Langton Field, Langton Lane (off Nackington Road), Canterbury, Kent</b></p> <p><b>The Decision needed:</b>  <b>Proposed decision –</b></p> <p>to approve the Director of Infrastructure to progress with and enter into the necessary documentation to complete the freehold disposal of the land in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Reason for the decision</b> – Proposed property disposal in line with the Council’s s.123 best consideration obligations and over £1million which requires a key decision.</li> <li>• <b>Background</b> – The disposal of c.14.28 acres of Council owned</li> </ul>

agricultural land which is surplus to KCC requirements and allocated for residential development under current Local Plan. The land has been identified along with land in the ownership of Canterbury City Council as potential expansion of the hospital in Canterbury subject to consideration of the options available by NHS I/E. This decision seeks agreement for the inclusion of KCC's land if required.

- **How the proposed decision meets the objectives of 'Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes: Kent County Council's Strategic Statement (2015-2020)'** - Securing a capital receipt to fund the capital programme and to streamline the Council's property portfolio to achieve financial and efficiency benefits in line with appropriate policy.

## **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

### **Who is taking the Decision**

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services

### **Date:**

Not before August 2021

### **Reason if Key Decision**

N/A

### **Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

The proposed decision was considered and endorsed by Policy & Resources Cabinet Committee on 13 July 2021.

## **Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

### **Consultees**

## **Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

### **Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

Anticipated capital receipt over £1m in line with Council's s.123 best consideration obligations. The sale of the property will result in a capital receipt for KCC which will be used to support the Council's Capital Programme. The timing of the capital receipt will be dependent on any expansion coming forward and being approved by NHS I/E and the development being brought forward.

### **Support documents**

21-00060 PROD - Disposal of Land at Langton Field DR v2  
21-00060 Exec Dec Report to Mr Oakford - Disposal of Langton Field Canterbury v2

Appendix A - Langton Field, Langton Lane off Nackington Rd, Canterbury - site plan  
Appendix B - KCC and CCC land earmarked for proposed Canterbury Hospital  
Appendix C - KCC & CCC land in context with proposed South Canterbury schemes

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services

**Reference No:** Investment is required to meet statutory compliance and provide fit for purpose accommodation for KCC and DDC services. The proposed redevelopment will meet the Council's obligations to its staff and users in terms of accessibility, inclusion and its environmental objectives.

A key decision is being sought in accordance with the Council's governance processes.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**21/00059 - Dover Discovery Community Hub Redevelopment**

**The Decision needed:**

**Proposed decision-**

To authorise the creation of a Dover Discovery Community Hub including the following KCC services Community Learning and Skills, Children Social Services, a Library, Good Day Programme Services. Delegate authority and authorise the Director of Infrastructure in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services to enter into a Funding Agreement setting out the funding arrangements with Dover District Council and to enter into any contracts or property arrangements required to deliver the Community Hub.

**Background:**

The Dover Discovery Centre is a prominent building located in Dover Town Centre. The building is currently in split ownership between KCC and Dover District Council (DDC). The District Council have ambitious plans to support the renewal of the Town Centre and support its continued vibrancy. It is in this context that the Dover Community Hub project has been developed. The new community hub will enable the relocation of the Children's Services Team from its current location at Poultons Family Centre, provide space for The Good Day Programme, enable the redevelopment of the library and adult education to offer improved public access, and an opportunity for an improved co-ordinated service. It is envisaged that the project will bring a higher footfall to the Town Centre and improve public access to both the archaeology which sits below the

building and the external ruins of the St. Martin's Le Grand Church and the Classis Britannica Fort. The proposals have provided an opportunity to incorporate the provision of a walk-in archive facility and education room within the Dover District Council owned area, which provides an opportunity to co-locate the Dover District Council and Kent County Council local studies archive within one single space. The proposed archive facility will provide improved facilities for those undertaking local studies research and allow enhanced access to the extensive artefacts and ephemera held by the Museum.

By bringing together key services KCC will enable a more holistic service offer to the residents in Dover, in a key location that supports the wider regeneration of Dover Town Centre in a modern, fit for purpose building.

## **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

### **Who is taking the Decision**

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services

### **Date:**

Not before August 2021

### **Reason if Key Decision**

A screening assessment has been undertaken and will be kept updated as the project progresses.

### **Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

The proposed decision was considered and endorsed by Policy & Resources Cabinet Committee on 13 July 2021.

## **Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

### **Consultees**

## **Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

### **Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

The project will enable the Council to consolidate its property footprint into a single location. The project is expected to deliver revenue savings once in steady state.

Funding has been allocated from the Capital MTFP to progress with the redevelopment.

Dover District Council's Cabinet have agreed to enter into an agreement with KCC to contribute towards the cost of delivering the scheme.

The funding is proposed as follows:

**COST FUNDING**

Stage 2 Cost

£7.75M

KCC

£7.2M

Dover District Council

£0.550M

**Support documents**

21-00059 PROD Dover Discovery Redevelopment LH

21-00059 Exec Decision Report Mr Oakford - Dover Discovery July 2021 RS  
BS DR LH v3

App 1 - RIBA Stage 2 Agreed Layouts Feb21

App 2 - Proposed Record of Decision BS DR 2

App 3 - KCC-DDC Leases & Freeholds 12.03.19

**NOT BEFORE 21 JULY 2021**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

**Reference No:**

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's  
Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**21/00058 - Updated 2021-22 and 2022-23 Admissions  
Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled  
schools**

**The Decision needed:**

Proposed decision – To update the determined 2021-22 and 2022-23 admission arrangements for Kent community and voluntary controlled primary schools and Kent community and voluntary controlled secondary schools to accommodate new legal requirements in the forthcoming 2021 School Admissions Code.

**Reason for Decision:**

Admission authorities are legally required to determine admissions arrangements for their schools by 28 February each year. KCC fulfils this duty annually and following consideration at Education Cabinet Committee, the Cabinet Member for Education formally determines admission arrangements in line with the requirements of the 2014

## Admissions Code.

Government consulted on a new Admissions Code in late 2020 and following consideration of responses, laid a new Admissions Code before parliament which will come into force on 1 September 2021, subject to the necessary parliamentary procedure.

The 2021 School Admissions Code requires children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted to be given equal first priority in admission arrangements, alongside looked after children (LAC) and children who were previously looked after by English local authorities (PLAC).

This new provision will necessitate variations to determined admission arrangements to take effect from 1 September 2021. All admission authorities will need to vary their admission arrangements for 2021/22 (which would have been determined by 15 February 2020) and their admission arrangements for 2022/23 (which would have been determined by 15 February 2021). Without these variations, admission arrangements that have already been determined will no longer comply with the Code from this date.

In the event that the 2021 School Admissions Code does not come into force on 1 September 2021 of any reason, admissions arrangements will remain unchanged from their previously determined state.

### **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

#### **Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

#### **Date:**

Not before July 2021

#### **Reason if Key Decision**

Equalities implications were considered by government during their National consultation. KCC is legally required to make these changes.

#### **Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

### **Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

#### **Consultees**

### **Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

**Support documents**

PROD

Cabinet Member Report 2021-22 and 2022-23 Admission Arrangements

Appendix A - Determined Primary Admissions Arrangements 2021

Appendix B - Determined Primary Admissions Arrangements 2022

Appendix C - Determined Secondary Admissions Arrangements 2021

Appendix D - Determined Secondary Admissions Arrangements 2022

Appendix 5\_Annex

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

**Reference No:** Contracting for KCC framework building contractors.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**21/00057 - Proposal to expand school sports facilities on the Wildernesse Campus**

**The Decision needed:**

**Proposed decision to –**

- **endorse the addition of £1.5m of Community Infrastructure Levy funding to total the project budget for the expansion of Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys onto a satellite, to provide enhanced sporting facilities on the Wildernesse Campus. The total budget allocated for the expansion will increase to £17.4m.**
- **delegate authority to the Director of Infrastructure, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, to approve necessary development works required to develop the land into usable playing fields and to finalise the terms of and enter into relevant contracts or other legal agreements as required to implement this decision.**
- **delegate authority to the Director of Infrastructure in consultation with the General Counsel and Director of Education and Skills to enter into any necessary contracts / agreements on behalf of the County Council.**
- **authorise the Director of Infrastructure to be the nominated Authority Representative within the relevant agreements and to enter into variations as envisaged under the contracts.**

- Reason for the decision

The accommodation for Trinity School and Weald of Kent Grammar School have been built and the schools are offering places on the Wildernesse Campus. In order to expand Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys by 3FE, KCC are building a satellite of the school on the Wildernesse Campus.

The establishment of a satellite provision for Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys adds 3FE to the existing 6FE and 3FE from Trinity School and Weald of Kent Grammar School, respectively. The decision to expand Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys can be viewed here:

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=2372>

The original site design indicated that there was sufficient land to provide adequate sports facilities for 12FE, but it was understood and accepted that there would have to be very close integration of sports and physical education curricula across the three users.

The site survey conducted in 2019 indicated that the gross site area of the Wildernesse Campus, for a pupil population of the site of 2,400 (12FE) was just within the range for a 12FE site according to Building Bulletin 103. However, the net area was below that suggested, because large areas were not suitable for formal sporting facilities, being habitat or protected woodland. Nevertheless, studies indicated that the three schools would be able to deliver their sporting curriculum if the existing facilities were carefully managed and scheduled between the schools.

In late 2019, an opportunity arose where land adjacent to the school was offered for sale by the Royal Society for Blind Children. The land measured approximately 9 acres and would support the provision of a further two grassed areas for summer and winter sport, including football, athletics, cricket and rugby

A decision to purchase the land was taken by the Cabinet member, decision number 20/00045 (Purchase of Land South of Seal Drive in Sevenoaks)

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/documents/s96775/Signed%20RoD.pdf>

Following the acquisition of the new land, KCC's appointed consultants were able to reconsider the sports offer. The revised proposal is a significant expansion to the original project aspirations, providing additional facilities including laying two more all-weather pitches, resulting in there being one for each school. The list of the new proposed sports offer is:

- Two 4-court indoor sports halls.
- Seven hard surface MUGA (Multi-Use Games Areas) marked for tennis, netball, basketball, five a side football and other sports.
- One all-weather pitch surfaced for hockey (with LED lighting)
- Two all-weather pitch surfaced for football or rugby (with LED lighting)
- Grassed areas for use with summer and winter markings, to facilitate:



- Winter
  - o Two grassed football / rugby pitches.
  - o Training squares.
- Summer
  - o Cricket wicket and field
  - o Athletics track
  - o 100m straight sprint track.
  - o Long jump and field athletics areas for javelin, discus & shot.
  - o Two rounders squares.
  - o Cricket nets
- Cross country circuit, approx. 1.5km

Enhancing the sports facilities as outlined above would result in an additional cost to the CYPE capital budget, estimated at £1.5m. Therefore, to ensure the three schools on the campus could access enhanced more flexible sporting facilities, which would not only increase their ability to timetable more easily but also provide enhanced facilities for use by the wider community, it was decided that a bid for CIL funding should be submitted to Sevenoaks District Council

In order to provide the correct facilities, KCC has sought advice and accreditation from National sporting bodies including the Football Association, England Hockey and Sport England. Pitches and facilities are being provided in line with these national guidelines.

Sevenoaks District Council has, as requirement for release of CIL funding, requested that the facilities have a strong community focus, and be able to be available for use by the community out of school hours and weekends. KCC and the three schools have had many enquiries from local sports clubs and groups about pitch availability once the project is complete.

- Options

There are no options.

- How the proposed decision meets the objectives of 'Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes: Kent County Council's Strategic Statement (2015-2020)'

#### School Sports Facilities

The project greatly enhances the outdoor sports provision for the Trinity School, the Weald of Kent Grammar School and Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys.

Depending on the season and the curriculums of the schools, the grassed areas could be marked for hockey, athletics, rugby or football or several smaller training areas. The additional land would also offer opportunities for cross country running around the perimeter, offering a total running distance of more than 1.5km, across a challenging mix of vegetation, gradients and direction changes.

#### Additional Community Use Facilities

There is quite a demand for sports facilities in Sevenoaks and the schools on the site would work together to make certain areas of the site available for hire by the local community, when and where it is appropriate, i.e. when not in use by the schools. New pitches would result in the existing facilities being not overused. This adds to the potential for out of hours community use.

## **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

### **Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

### **Date:**

Not before July 2021

### **Reason if Key Decision**

Two Equality Impact Assessments have been completed which apply to this project and the proposal has been assessed as offering improved facilities for students with disabilities and for students of faith and no faith.

### **Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

## **Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

### **Consultees**

## **Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

### **Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

Capital

There is no cost to the CYPE Capital budget.

A study was carried out in 2020, which estimated the cost of delivery being approximately £1.5m, over and above the funding previously agreed for the Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys expansion.

It was decided that KCC would apply to Sevenoaks District Council for the funding to be awarded under the Community Infrastructure Levy. KCC were successful with their bid for funding and, pending legal agreement, will receive this when it is required.

The CIL funding from Sevenoaks District Council will be solely used to facilitate the new sports facilities. All other works to the Campus are fully costed in the existing budget as agreed in the decision number 20/00009.

Revenue

The maintenance costs for the additional sports facilities will be through the schools' budgets, facilitated by a joint agreement between all parties.

**Support documents**

PROD  
Report

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Economic Development

**Reference No:** The successful service provider will be subject to Kent County Council's Terms and Conditions, which have been reviewed by Invicta Law to consider ERDF funding conditions and to generally make the fit for purpose for this contract.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**21/00056 - Inward Investment Services**

**The Decision needed:**

Proposed decision –

The Cabinet Member for Economic Development to agree to entering a contract with the successful bidder once the selection process is completed.

**Background**

Kent County Council is seeking to procure Inward Investment Services for the period August 2021 to April 2023. This will replace the existing inward investment services contract with Locate in Kent, which commenced in August 2016 and runs until the end of July 2021. Current and future contracts for this service are predominantly grant funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), with match funding from Kent County Council and Medway Council.

The Inward Investment Service will deliver, alongside Kent County Council and Medway Council, specific outcomes that contribute to economic development in Kent and Medway. These are:

- More investment opportunities from overseas markets
- Increased supply chain benefits for local businesses
- More inward investment in Kent and Medway
- Raised profile as a destination for inward and foreign direct investment.

The Inward Investment Service will be contracted to a supplier for the period 1 August 2021 to 30 April 2023 (21 months). The contract period appears to

be an unusual duration but is because of the previous contract being extended by agreement with the funding accountable body, MHCLG. The contract was extended because the previous exercise to reprocure a service provider was halted due to the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic and a requirement to redirect KCC procurement services.

The purpose of the service will be to promote and raise the profile of Kent and Medway as an attractive business investment location for UK and foreign-owned businesses relocating and expanding within and into the county, and to create jobs from successful company investments.

The new inward investment services contract cost will be £1,666,667 + VAT. The contract will be funded by KCC, Medway Council and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Growth Programme. The ERDF funding is subject to a Grant Funding Agreement between KCC and MHCLG.

The service will aim to promote and raise the profile of Kent and Medway as a business location with the aim of attracting new investment from Kent, UK, and overseas businesses, creating jobs and economic prosperity. Contracted outputs over the contract period will be 2,800 new jobs from SMEs and non-SMEs and a minimum of 100 successful business investment/location/expansion projects.

#### Options

Five options were considered:

- Option 1 Do nothing. This would mean having no further external service commission after the cessation of the current contract with Locate in Kent, and no in-house provision within KCC. This would provide significant financial savings to KCC. However, because there is currently no comparable business support service in Kent and Medway, this would result in a failure to capitalise on opportunities for growth in the local economy and job creation.
- Option 2 – Do minimum. This would mean establishing for the first time a bespoke, outward-facing business support service based in KCC. Although currently KCC does not have the expertise in-house to provide the specialised, face-to-face support that businesses want, this would potentially deliver cost savings to the County Council. However, it is unlikely to attract financial support from Medway Council, the ESIF programme and the private sector. There would also be TUPE implications of transferring staff from the current supplier to KCC. There are also currently difficulties of establishing a new team of this nature at a time when the return to office situation is not fully settled.
- Option 3 – Minimum Plus. This would mean an external supplier providing a less ambitious service at a lower price than currently. This would deliver financial savings to KCC and other potential funders and would maintain some specialised inward investment services in a post Brexit economy. However, it could result in a reduction in the county's ability to compete

for domestic and foreign inward investment, and it is uncertain whether financial support would be forthcoming from Medway Council.

- Option 4 – Targeted approach (Preferred option). This would involve delivering a targeted approach to attracting more domestic and foreign business investment to Kent and Medway, focusing specifically on the opportunities and challenges in a post-Brexit economy. This is the preferred option and is supported by the proposed funding partners, who will provide financial support for the duration of the proposed commission.
- Option 5 – Comprehensive service. This would be expected to cover all sectors across Kent and would thus increase targets and outputs. Although there would be higher targets and more business beneficiaries, with the potential to create more jobs, this option would be too costly and therefore unaffordable.

The preferred option will deliver an improved service and a more targeted approach to attracting domestic and foreign investment in a post-Brexit economy. It is the best fit to offer an optimal service with the funding that is available.

How the proposed decision meets the challenges in the Interim Strategic Plan  
The decision addresses the economic challenge by seeking to attract investment in Kent’s economy to support economic growth.

The project is also consistent with Kent’s Economic Recovery Plan, which recognises the need to support businesses in the return to growth including through focussed efforts on place marketing, sector specific support and supply chain development and support for innovation.

Financial implications:

**The expected total revenue cost of the contract from 1 August 2021 to 30 April 2023 is £1,666,667 + VAT. There are no capital costs. The breakdown of financial contributions is shown in the table below:**

Funding use	Funded by	1 Aug '21 – 31 Mar '22 (8 months)	1 April '22 – 31 Mar '23 (12 months)
SME support	<b>ERDF</b>	<b>£285,714</b>	<b>£428,571</b>
SME support	<b>Kent County Council</b>	<b>£285,714</b>	<b>£428,571</b>
Non-SME support	<b>Kent County Council</b>	<b>£ 19,048</b>	<b>£ 28,571</b>
Non -SME support	<b>Medway Council</b>	<b>£ 46,667</b>	<b>£ 70,000</b>
	Totals	£637,143	£955,714

## Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when

### Who is taking the Decision

Cabinet Member for Economic Development

**Date:**

Not before July 2021

**Reason if Key Decision**

An Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken for the service. No issues have been identified.

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan****Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors****Consultees****Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.****Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

The expected total revenue cost of the contract from 1 August 2021 to 30 April 2023 is £1,666,667 + VAT. There are no capital costs. The breakdown of financial contributions is shown in the table in description.

**Support documents****Responsible Cabinet Member - Cabinet**

**Reference No:** None known at this stage.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.****Title:**

**21/00055 - KCC's Civil Society Strategy**

**The Decision needed:**

Proposed decision-

Following consultation, for the Cabinet to agree the adoption of KCC's new Civil Society Strategy and infrastructure support offer, to be aligned to the strategy framework.

<p>Further information-</p> <p>The Civil Society strategy will replace KCC's existing VCS policy and set out the future relationship with civil society and the 'social sector', voluntary, community and social enterprise sector (VCSE), as a core part of that.</p> <p>The strategy was previously consulted on between February and April 2020, however due to Covid the development of the strategy was paused. We are now revising the draft to reflect the events of the last year and ensure that it will still meet the challenges going forward.</p> <p>The strategy will set out the objectives and intentions for KCC's future offer of infrastructure support to the VCSE. The funding agreed for this is £2.1m over the 3 years of the strategy; and will be allocated against the priorities and framework set out in the strategy.</p> <p>The strategy will also revise the grant framework for the council, which was developed in 2015 and has been updated based on feedback from the past 6 years of operation. This is intended to create consistency and clarity in the way we award grants to the VCSE across the Council.</p> <p>The strategy will replace the Kent Partners Compact, which was last revised in 2012 and will set out the principles of how we will engage and work with the VCSE in the future.</p> <p>This will be a supporting strategy to the Interim Strategic Plan and longer term, to the new Strategic Statement for the Council.</p>
<p><b>Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when</b></p>
<p><b>Who is taking the Decision</b> Cabinet</p> <p><b>Date:</b> Not before July 2021</p> <p><b>Reason if Key Decision</b> An Equalities Impact Assessment screening has been undertaken.</p> <p><b>Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan</b></p>
<p><b>Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors</b></p>
<p><b>Consultees</b></p>
<p><b>Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.</b></p>

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

**Support documents**

**NOT BEFORE 14 JULY 2021**

**Responsible Cabinet Member - Cabinet Member for Education and Skills**

**Reference No:** The Education (School Day and School Year) (England) Regulations 1999 (SI 1999 No. 3181) require schools to hold at least 380 half-day sessions (190 days) in each school year, beginning with the first term to start after July. This is consistent with the 195 days a year required by a teacher's statutory conditions of service: the additional five days are for in-service training. As KCC has responsible for community and voluntary controlled schools it is part of our duty to set the dates.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**  
**21/00054 - School Term Dates 2022-23**

**The Decision needed:**

Proposed decision:

The Cabinet Member for Education and Skills is asked to determine the School Year dates for community and voluntary controlled schools, by the local authority (LA)

Further information:

Schools are required by statute to provide schooling for 190 days. Teaching staff are required by their terms and conditions to complete 195 days including 5 development days.

Term dates and holidays, in England, are set:

- for community and voluntary controlled schools, by the local authority (LA)
- for foundation, voluntary aided schools, academies and free schools by the governing body.

The government's policies to promote academies and free schools will mean that increasingly school governing bodies will be determining the school term dates for their schools.

The proposed calendar will be considered by Children, Young People and



Education Cabinet Committee and following this the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills will take the final decision. Following the consultation and approval the agreed school term dates calendar for 2022-23 will be published.

Setting school term dates has a relationship to one of the priorities in Delivering Vision and Priorities for Improvement 2018 – 2021. The priority states KCC will ‘ensure that the maximum number of children and young people of statutory school age are enabled to attend education provision on a full-time basis.’

**Risks:**

Following the recent announcement that the Government is looking at the possibility of shortening the summer holiday and moving to a five-term school year, it is possible that the proposed term dates for 2022-23 may have to be altered following determination. However, our neighbouring LAs have already either determined or are currently consulting on their term dates for 2022-23 and there is the potential that if Kent delayed determination, it would have to follow the majority to ensure a co-ordinated approach. In addition, if we do not determine the term dates, the LA will not be meeting its statutory obligation.

**Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

**Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

**Date:**

Not before July 2021

**Reason if Key Decision**

A full EqIA has been completed this will be updated once the consultation has finished and the full results will be presented to CYPE Cabinet Committee.

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

**Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

**Consultees**

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

There are no direct cost implications arising from the decision on the school calendar. However, if individual foundation, voluntary aided schools, academies or free schools determine a different pattern of term dates, they

may incur additional costs in relation to home to school transport, as the authority passes any additional costs on to the schools concerned.

**Support documents**

21-00054 - PROD

21-00054 Decision report

Proposed dates 2022-23

**Responsible Cabinet Member - Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services**

**Reference No:** - The SEND Code of Practice states:

- Health or social care provision which educates or trains a child or young person must be treated as special educational provision and included in Section F of the EHC plan. (9.73 of the SEND Code of Practice 2015)
- Speech and language therapy and other therapy provision can be regarded as either education or health provision, or both. However, since communication is so fundamental in education, addressing speech and language impairment should normally be recorded as special educational provision unless there are exceptional reasons for not doing so. (9.76 of the SEND Code of Practice 2015)
- In cases where health care provision is to be treated as special educational provision, ultimate responsibility for ensuring that the provision is made rests with the local authority (unless the child's parent has made suitable arrangements). (9.76 of the SEND Code of Practice 2015)
- Invicta Law have been engaged to provide relevant advice regarding the e

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**21/00053 - SEN Therapies Commissioning Strategy**

**The Decision needed:**

Proposed decision –

Implement A Qualified Provider List to fulfil the Council's responsibilities for SEN Therapies provision – which will meet the needs identified in a child's Education Health and Care Plan and where there is an identified gap in health provision.

- Decision required because total value of contracts will exceed threshold for a Key Decision.
- Background – KCC currently commission a range of therapy services to meet the needs identified in a child's Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and where there is an identified gap in health provision. Services

are currently purchased from multiple different providers, ranging from special schools to individual therapists.

- There are currently three distinct arrangements in place, Preferred Provider List, Non-preferred providers and personalised funding arrangements.
- Services are currently purchased from over 47 providers, ranging from special schools to individual therapists. The types of therapies purchased include speech and language, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT), hydrotherapy, play therapy and Occupational Therapy (OT).

#### Options

##### 1. Do Nothing.

- The services continue to be delivered via the current spot purchasing arrangements - no additional staff resources would be required or disruption to delivery of current service levels. However, this option does not comply with the Public Contract Regulations 2015. Therefore, the current arrangements limit KCC's ability to shape and control the market to ensure the right capacity and provision is available. KCC has limited influence over the outcomes of the service and limited contract management tools to improve supplier poor-performance.

##### 2. Establish a Dynamic Purchasing System

- Implementing a DPS would have limited disruption to status quo and delivery of current services. The DPS would allow new entrants into the market with providers being required to pass a minimum capability standard can be split into lots to accommodate different specialism, or location.
- There is however, currently a complex supply market, with a mixture of larger suppliers, NHS providers, charities, and sole traders. The market is also delicate in that there are scarcity of provision and supply in particular with Occupational Therapy services and is essential that care is taken to prevent destabilising the current market that we have. These differing categories of suppliers could result in a variable appetite for a formal tender process, possibly impacting continuity of supply.

##### 3. Establish a Qualified Provider List

- The Proposed decision to establish a Qualified Provider List would enable KCC to stabilise this market and allow better planning for future demand for services. This option is also preferable for smaller providers.
- Currently there is a preferred provider list and qualities framework to ensure best outcomes for children and young people, however moving to a QPL, will in addition provide some stability and sustainability to this market and provide a compliant contractual basis to work more closely with providers when planning future requirements.

## Risks

- The risk if we do not take a decision are discussed in Option 1, this option does comply with the Public Contract Regulations 2015. Therefore, the current arrangements limit KCC's ability to shape and control the market to ensure the right capacity and provision is available. KCC has limited influence over the outcomes of the service and limited contract management tools to improve supplier poor-performance.

## Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when

### Who is taking the Decision

Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services

### Date:

Not before July 2021

### Reason if Key Decision

- An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) screening has been completed and has concluded that the proposed decision does not present any adverse equality impact.

### Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan

## Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors

### Consultees

## Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.

### Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:

- The SEN spend for SEN Therapies in 2019-20/2020-21 is summarised below:

-

Personalised Therapy for Named Child (Spot Purchased)

Year Spend

2019-2020 £381,707k

2020-2021 £428,917k

- This falls under the Special Educational Needs & Psychology Services key service line within Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Division budget, line 65 in the 2021/22 KCC Budget.

### Support documents

21-00053 - Decision Report

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

**Reference No:** - Kent County Council has a statutory responsibility under The Education Act 1996 to provide education for all CYP until the age of 19, or 25 for those with EHCPs.

- S.19 of the Education Act 1996 states the Council must ensure suitable education is provided for CYP unable to attend school, typically full-time (25 hours) unless a physical or mental health need requires a reduction.
- Associated legislation includes The Children and Families Act 2014, the SEN Code of Practice (2015), the Equality Act 2010 and The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Regulations 2014.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**  
**21/0052 - Increasing capacity within The Education Programme to fulfil SENs (Special Educational Needs Service) responsibilities for tuition when required**

**The Decision needed:**

Proposed decision:

Increase the capacity within The Education Programme to fulfil the SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Service’s responsibility to provide education provision for children and young people (CYP) with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHC Plans) who are not attending school through a Service Level Agreement (SLA).

- Decision
  - This decision is required because the total value of the SLA will exceed the threshold for a Key Decision.
  - The proposed decision is to increase the capacity within The Education Programme to fulfil The Council’s responsibilities for tuition through a Service Level Agreement (SLA).
- Background
  - SEND requires tuition to meet a child’s EHC Plan’s education provision short-term whilst a long-term placement is sought, most often due to a delay in finding a special school place.
  - There are two distinct types of tuition arrangement utilised by Kent County

Council (KCC):

- an internal provision provided by The Education Programme within Fair Access, Education; and
- spot purchased placements with external tuition companies.
- The provision provided by these two types of tuition is inconsistent. Due to capacity issues The Education Programme offers an average of 5 hours per week, whilst external companies are commissioned for 10 hours per week.
  
- Currently SEN consult with The Education Programme before referring to the external market. There is not a Service Level Agreement (SLA) in place between SEN and Education to describe the service to be delivered; quantities, quality and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).
  
- Options Appraisal
  1. Do nothing
  2. Continue using The Education Programme at current levels and formalise external provider arrangements
  3. Increase The Education Programme capacity to support all standard tuition requirements and formalise the arrangement with an SLA
  
- Option 3, to increase The Education Programme's capacity to support all standard tuition requirements and formalise the arrangement with an SLA, is the preferred option as it offers best value for these types of placements whilst supporting good outcomes for CYP with EHC Plans.
  
- The increase will include ensuring all students are offered suitable hours per week in a consistent manner to fulfil KCC's statutory duty to provide an appropriate timetable and ensure equity across placements.
  
- The proposed decision will contribute to the outcome "Children and young people in Kent get the best start in life" by ensuring consistent, high-quality, and best value standard tuition for CYP with EHC Plans requiring temporary education.
  
- Option 1, to do nothing, was discounted because the spend is non-compliant with the Public Contract Regulations (PCR) 2015 and the provision is inconsistent for students with EHCPs.
  
- Option 2, to continue using The Education Programme at current levels and formalise external provider arrangements, was discounted as it did not represent best value.
  
- The risks involved with not taking this decision include:
  - continued non-compliant spend (PCR 2015); and
  - inconsistent provision and outcomes for CYP with EHC Plans.
  - Strategic Plan
  
- Through the commissioning of the contract, we will support the following

strategic outcomes of KCC:

- Kent's children have the best start in life and families get the right help and support when they need it; and
- every young person in Kent gets the education, skills and experiences they need for a successful future.

In addition, this service will support achievement of the following priorities:

- Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND): We are committed to working in partnership to make the necessary improvements for children and young people with SEND and their families.
- Implementing the Kent Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Written Statement of Action Plan: [...] Following the result of our Ofsted and Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection in 2019, we are focusing on designing better, more inclusive services to improve the quality of services for children and young people with SEND.
- Support for vulnerable young people: Our role is to champion children, young people, parents and families. We want to improve life chances and close the achievement gap for vulnerable young people.

KCC Strategic Delivery Plan, 2020-23

## **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

### **Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

### **Date:**

Not before July 2021

### **Reason if Key Decision**

- An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) screening has been completed and has concluded that the proposed decision does not present any adverse equality impact.

### **Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

## **Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

### **Consultees**

## **Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

### **Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

- Currently, the cost for standard tuition is costing the Council £1,762,086, split between SEN, £929,086, and Education, £833,000.

- Enhancing the service with the additional proposed cost of £241,746 to increase the capacity of The Education Programme includes increasing the offer to discharge our statutory duty of an appropriate timetable and ensure equity across placements.
- If compared on a full year costed basis, the new internal provision will cost £16,528 per student whilst external standard placements cost £18,800+VAT per student.
- These placements fall under the Special Educational Needs & Psychology Services key service line within Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Division budget, line 65 in the 2021/22 KCC Budget.

**Support documents**

21-00052 PROD

21-00052 Decision Report

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

**Reference No:** This is being procured under Procurement Policy Note (PPN 01/20) was released in March 2020 setting out information and associated guidance on the public procurement regulations and responding to the current coronavirus, COVID-19, outbreak.

The regulation states that: in responding to COVID-19, contracting authorities may enter into contracts without competing or advertising the requirement so long as they are able to demonstrate that 4 prescribed tests have been met. The full text of these will not fit into this field but is set out at the end of the decision description.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**  
**21/00051 - Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Mental Health Assessments Contract Extension**

**The Decision needed:**

Proposed decision:

Extend the current contract with South East Memory Assessment Services from 1 September 2021 to 31 March 2022, by means of a Single Source Procurement and delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Adult Social Care and Health to take relevant actions, including but not limited



to finalising the terms of and entering into required contract or other legal agreements, as necessary to implement the decision.

**Background:**

The Mental Capacity Act 2019 introduced Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS) to replace Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) and was originally to come into force from 1st October 2020. During the pandemic Central Government announced that it would not be possible to meet the October deadline and decided that full implementation of Liberty Protection Safeguards would be April 2022. At the time of the announcement, the view was the revised date would allow sufficient time, following publication of the final code to prepare for implementation.

Under the current arrangements, a DoLS requires a mental health assessment, carried out by a mental health assessor. The MCA DoLS Regulations 2008 stipulate this must be a medical doctor experienced in mental health and are section 12 approved, therefore approved clinicians under the Mental Health Act 1983. Furthermore, the local authority is responsible for ensuring that sufficient mental health assessors are available. Capacity with a previous provider was limited – this was identified by a project group set up to clear a significant number of pending (backlog) cases. That group worked with Commissioning to source alternative provision for DoLS Mental Health Assessors, following due process which led to South East Memory Assessment Services (SEMAS) being awarded the contract in April 2016. The contract was expanded due to a key decision in May 2018 to purchase extra support to clear the DoLS backlog, this was called project DoLS.

Since that time, the provider (SEMAS) has been able to provide the number of assessments the Kent DoLS team have requested to the standard required and within the appropriate timeframes.

The contract with South East Memory Assessment Service is due to expire on 31 August 2021. Therefore, the proposal is to extend the current contract from 1 September to 31 March 2022 by means of a Single Source Procurement, in line with the change in legislation and new statutory framework.

*Full text of the legal implication for this decision, as these would not fit into that field:*

**Legal Implications:** This is being procured under Procurement Policy Note (PPN 01/20) was released in March 2020 setting out information and associated guidance on the public procurement regulations and responding to the current coronavirus, COVID-19, outbreak.

The regulation states that: *in responding to COVID-19, contracting authorities may enter into contracts without competing or advertising the requirement so long as they are able to demonstrate the following tests have all been met:*

1) *There are genuine reasons for extreme urgency, eg: you need to respond*

*to the COVID-19 consequences immediately because of public health risks, loss of existing provision at short notice, etc;*

- *you are reacting to a current situation that is a genuine emergency - not planning for one.*

2) *The events that have led to the need for extreme urgency were unforeseeable, eg:*

- *the COVID-19 situation is so novel that the consequences are not something you should have predicted.*

3) *It is impossible to comply with the usual timescales in the PCRs, eg:*

- *there is no time to run an accelerated procurement under the open or restricted procedures or competitive procedures with negotiation;*
- *there is no time to place a call off contract under an existing commercial agreement such as a framework or dynamic purchasing system.*

4) *The situation is not attributable to the contracting authority, eg:*

- *you have not done anything to cause or contribute to the need for extreme urgency.*

## **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

### **Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

#### **Date:**

Not before July 2021

#### **Reason if Key Decision**

an EQIA is part of current service documentation.

#### **Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

## **Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

### **Consultees**

The proposed decision was discussed and endorsed by the Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee on 22 June 2021.

## **Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

### **Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

The value of the seven months contract extension will be approximately £250,000 (dependent on demand).

Total spend on purchasing Metal Capacity Assessments (non- Project DOLs) through the contract will be over £1,000,000 by the end of March 2022, thereby requiring a key decision

## Support documents

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

**Reference No:** The provision of services to support people with health and/or social care needs following admission to hospital is detailed within the Care Act 2014. Paragraph 8.14 of the Statutory Care and Support Guidance states that local authorities may not charge for assessments, community equipment and minor adaptations, intermediate care or reablement for up to six weeks.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**  
**21/00050 - Discharge Services Contract Extensions and Future Commissioning**

**The Decision needed:**

Proposed decision:

Extend the Discharge Services contracts until 31 March 2022 at a cost of £1,659k, with a further option to extend until 30 September 2022; extend the east Kent Cottage Hospital discharge service until 31 March 2022 at a cost of £914k, once the NHS funding position is confirmed and delegate authority to the Corporate Director, Adult Social Care and Health to take relevant actions, including but not limited to finalising the terms of and entering into required contract or other legal agreements, as necessary to implement the decision.

Further information:

The current hospital discharge service contracts encompass Discharge to Assess and Assisted Discharge, which form part of Pathway 1, for people discharged from hospital who need support to recover at home. The contracts were due to expire on 31 March 2020 and were extended to meet the unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic.

The Council was in the process of undertaking a procurement exercise, with new contracts due to go live in April 2020. Due to the unforeseeable circumstances the Council was unable to award contracts within the planned timescales. The existing contracts were therefore extended in accordance with PCR 2015 - Regulation 32(2)(c) and Procurement Policy Note 01/20.

Dealing with the pandemic enabled us to work more closely with our health partners and highlighted potential to significantly improve the hospital

discharge pathways. RETHINK Partners were commissioned to undertake a review of the adult social care discharge pathways, co-sponsored with the NHS.

The learning from this review, will provide the foundation of the specification for a new Pathway One Discharge Service to commence in April 2022.

Enabling the extension to the current services will ensure that service delivery is not disrupted by mobilising new contracting arrangements over winter. Due to the interdependencies involved, it is prudent to request that an additional six-month optional extension until September 2022 also be agreed.

Some of the recommended improvements can be implemented into the existing contracts and will immediately help to address current issues in the market which have a detrimental impact on the flow of people through the system back to their own home.

Reason for the decision: This decision to extend contracts is required to allow for the continuation of Discharge Services until recommissioning can be concluded.

## **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

### **Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

### **Date:**

Not before July 2021

### **Reason if Key Decision**

An EQIA has not been completed. The variation agreement was centred on enabling quick and safe discharge and more generally reducing pressure on acute services, and the recommended extensions continue to support that.

An EQIA was completed for the commissioning of the Care and Support in the Home service

### **Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

## **Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

### **Consultees**

## **Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

The cost to extend the substantive Discharge to Assess and Assisted Discharge contracts for an additional six months is £1,695k; costs for these contracts currently come from the Section 75 pooled budget.

The cost to extend the remaining element of these services is £914k

**Support documents**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services

**Reference No:** - Kent County Council has a statutory responsibility under The Education Act 1996 to provide education for all CYP until the age of 19, or 25 for those with EHC Plans. Associated legislation includes The Children and Families Act 2014, the SEN Code of Practice (2015), the Equality Act 2010 and The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Regulations 2014.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**21/00049 - Non-Maintained and Independent Special School Commissioning Strategy**

**The Decision needed:**

Proposed decision –

Implement a Hybrid Dynamic Purchasing System to enable a more co-ordinated approach to securing placements for children and young people (CYP) in Non-Maintained and Independent Special Schools (NMISS). This will award contracts to schools after completion of a competitive tender process.

- Decision
- This decision is required because the total value of the contracts involved will exceed the threshold for a Key Decision.
- The proposed decision is to implement a Hybrid Dynamic Purchasing System to enable a more co-ordinated approach to securing placements for CYP in NMISS. This will award contracts to schools after completion of a competitive tender process.
- Background

- Non-maintained Independent Special School (NMISS) placements form part of the wider Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Service and are required to fulfil KCC's statutory responsibility to provide suitable education for all students. There is a need for a strategy to commission placements in a consistent manner, with mechanisms to enable KCC to monitor quality, improve outcomes and ensure placements offer best value for money.
- Options Appraisal
  1. Establish a Qualified Provider List
  2. Establish a hybrid Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS)
  3. Increase internal, maintained provision
  4. Flexi-block contracts/bespoke arrangements with providers
  5. Do nothing
- Option 2, to create a hybrid Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS), is the preferred option as it allows for strategic relationships to be developed. Both block contracts and individual placements can be procured through the DPS in a way compliant with the Public Contract Regulations (PCR) 2015.
- A DPS is a type of framework contract that allows other providers to join throughout the term of the contract, as long as certain criteria are met, and is the DfE recommended approach to procuring NMISS placements.
- A hybrid DPS offers more flexibility in procurement options to encourage more engagement from providers and to adapt to the changing SEND landscape over the next few years.
- The proposed decision to establish a hybrid DPS would enable KCC to improve outcomes for vulnerable CYP whilst improving the value for money of placements.
- Option 1, to establish a Qualified Provider List, was discounted because it would not enable more strategic conversations to take place with schools. A Qualified Provider List is better suited to stabilising markets, rather than shaping them, and it would not provide clarity of costs for placements.
- Option 3, to increase internal, maintained provision, is to be considered alongside the proposed option but the need to manage the NMISS market will remain.
- Option 4, to have flexi-block contracts/bespoke arrangements with providers, can be incorporated into a hybrid DPS, so this option was not considered independently.
- Option 5, to do nothing, was discounted because of the increasing spend, which is non-compliant with the PCR 2015, and inconsistent outcomes for students with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHC Plans).

- The risks involved with not taking this decision include:
    - continued non-compliant spend (PCR 2015);
    - increasing costs; and
    - inconsistent provision and outcomes for CYP with EHC Plans.
    - Strategic Plan
  - Through the commissioning of the contract, we will support the following strategic outcomes of KCC:
    - Kent's children have the best start in life and families get the right help and support when they need it; and
    - every young person in Kent gets the education, skills and experiences they need for a successful future.
- In addition, this service will support achievement of the following priorities:
- Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND): We are committed to working in partnership to make the necessary improvements for children and young people with SEND and their families.
  - Implementing the Kent Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Written Statement of Action Plan: [...] Following the result of our Ofsted and Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection in 2019, we are focusing on designing better, more inclusive services to improve the quality of services for children and young people with SEND.
  - Support for vulnerable young people: Our role is to champion children, young people, parents and families. We want to improve life chances and close the achievement gap for vulnerable young people.
- KCC Strategic Delivery Plan, 2020-23

**Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

**Who is taking the Decision**  
 Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services

**Date:**  
 Not before July 2021

**Reason if Key Decision**

- An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) screening has been completed and has concluded that the proposed decision does not present any adverse equality impact.

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

**Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

**Consultees**

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

- The spend per annum for NMISS placements has been increasing over the last four years to a current total of £49m.

- The spend per financial year:

Financial Year	Spend
2017/18	£27,911,115
2018/19	£34,167,515
2019/20	£39,772,645
2020/21	£49,244,606

- The placements fall under the Special Educational Needs & Psychology Services key service line within Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Division budget, line 65 in the 2021/22 KCC Budget.

**Support documents**

21-00049 PROD

21-00049 Decision Report

**NOT BEFORE 6 JULY 2021**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

**Reference No:** There are no legal implications associated with this scheme.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**21/00048 A228/B2017 and B2017/B2160 Paddock Wood Junction Improvements**

**The Decision needed:**

The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation is asked to give approval for the County Council

i) to progress the proposed junction improvements as indicatively shown on drawings SK24 Rev 4; and SK49 Rev D and SK50 Rev D through surveys, design and construction;



- ii) to submit the proposed junction improvements shown on drawings SK24 Rev 4; and SK49 Rev D and SK50 Rev D for Land Charge disclosures and development control;
- iii) to take a transfer of land for the B2160 junction improvements from the adjacent housing development under a S106 planning obligation and to acquire other land and rights as necessary;
- iv) to progress all statutory approvals and consents required for the scheme including detailed planning consent, drainage and environmental consents and securing temporary use of land for a construction site compound;
- v) to enter into construction contracts as necessary for the delivery of the scheme, subject to approval of the Infrastructure Commissioning Board to the recommended procurement strategy; and
- vi) for any further decisions required to allow the scheme to proceed through to delivery to be taken by the Interim/Corporate Director of Growth, Environment & Transport under the Officer Scheme of Delegations following prior consultation with the Cabinet Member.

#### • Background

Paddock Wood is a housing growth area within Tunbridge Wells Local Plan.

Three developments at Mascalls Court Farm, Mascalls Farm and Church Farm were given planning consent in 2018. Development progress is at various stages but has started at all three sites and together they will deliver nearly 1,000 new homes. As part of the traffic mitigation to accommodate these new developments, improvements were identified for the A228/B2017 and B22017/B2160/Mascalls Court Road junctions.

The proposed improvement of the A228/B2017 junction is for an enlarged roundabout within the existing highway boundary to achieve an increased diameter with wider entry lanes and more circulating space. The proposed improvement of the B22017/B2160/Mascalls Court Road junction is to locally realign the B2170 and change the current staggered priority junction into a traffic signal-controlled crossroads together with pedestrian crossing facilities.

As three developments are involved with no individual development willing to take overall responsibility or liability to implement the works under a S278 agreement, the former Leader of the County Council decided in 2014 that KCC would deliver the junction improvements and the S106 agreements were completed on that basis.

The S106 agreements have intervention triggers but there was an over-riding longstop date of 1 April 2021 whereby KCC was obliged to notify the developers of its intent to progress the improvements. That notification was issued on 29 March 2021 and that triggered the full or progressive payment of the contributions such that they will all have been received by 31 December 2021. There is also an obligation to transfer a small area of land required for the B2017/B2160/Mascalls Court Road junction scheme.

KCC has a 'reasonable endeavours' obligation to complete the improvements by 1 April 2023. However, while Officers are proceeding diligently, surveys are required before detailed design can proceed, public engagement will be required and the B2017/B2160/Mascalls Court Road junction proposal will require planning consent and it is possible that

construction may not be able to start before spring 2023. One agreement also has an obligation to return the contribution if the improvements have not started within 5 years – April 2026 – however, the construction period is only about 9 months and so that risk is minor.

**• How the proposed decision meets the objectives of ‘Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes: Kent County Council’s Strategic Statement (2015-2020)’**

The scheme supports the objectives by reducing congestion, improving the highway infrastructure to provide more reliable journey times and improved public transport links and accessibility, to support Kent business and housing growth and encourage economic activity to benefit the local and wider communities.

**Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

**Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

**Date:**

Not before July 2021

**Reason if Key Decision**

EQIA Assessment will be included with the Committee report.

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

**Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

**Consultees**

Public awareness as part of the development sites planning applications. No formal consultation been undertaken to date, but an information exercise will be carried out when the designs have been developed and prior to submission of a planning application that is required for one of the junctions.

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

The overall estimated cost of the project is circa £4m and this is fully funded from matched indexed linked contributions from three S106 developer agreements. Contributions are already being received and will be fully received by December 2021. KCC will always be in a cash positive position and would not commit to construction until all contributions had been received. The construction estimate is considered robust with a significant contingency and risk provision but will be kept under review.

**Support documents**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

**Reference No:** There are no legal implications associated with this scheme.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**21/00047 Dover Fastrack**

**The Decision needed:**

The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation is asked to give approval for the County Council to:

- i) all acts required to carry out and complete the Dover Fastrack scheme;
- ii) all acts required to acquire the land and rights for the carrying out and completion of the Dover Fastrack scheme, including by means of a compulsory purchase order;
- iii) the delegation to the Interim/Corporate Director of Growth, Environment & Transport under the Officer Scheme of Delegations following prior consultation with the Cabinet Member, any further or other decisions as may be appropriate to deliver the Dover Fastrack scheme.
- iv) confirm that other decisions in Record of Decision 15/00053 remain extant.

Dover Fastrack (formerly known as Dover Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)) is a proposed high quality dedicated bus scheme (like that operating in North Kent) that is a fundamental part of Dover District Council’s Local Plan Core Strategy and current Local Plan Review to 2040 to support inter alia the delivery of 5,750 new homes as part of the Whitfield Urban Expansion. It will also provide connectivity to the White Cliffs Business Park, the development of up to 500 new homes at Connaught Barracks, the town centre and Dover Priory station. The key infrastructure involves i) a link from White Cliffs Business Park on a new bridge over the A2 and a route through Phase 1A of the Whitfield Urban Expansion to link up with Archers Court Road; ii) a link from White Cliffs Business Park to Dover Road and iii) localised widening and improvements to Dover Road. The scheme received planning consent in March 2021.

Land is required, primarily, from the developer of Phase 1A of the Whitfield Urban Expansion. Negotiations have commenced and while it is hoped that agreement can be reached the use of compulsory purchase is required to give overall land availability and programme certainty.

Following a Report to Environment & Transport Cabinet Committee 8 August 2019, a Record of Decision 19/00053 gave a wide range of authorities to allow the scheme to proceed. However, compulsory purchase is a strong power available to local authorities and it is appropriate to seek an updated and specific authority for its use.

**How the proposed decision meets the objectives of ‘Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes: Kent County Council’s Strategic Statement (2015-2020)’**

The scheme supports the objectives by reducing congestion, improving the highway infrastructure to provide more reliable journey times and improved public transport links and accessibility, to support Kent business and housing growth and encourage economic activity to benefit the local and wider communities.

**Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

**Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

**Date:**

Not before July 2021

**Reason if Key Decision**

An updated EQIA Assessment will be included with the Committee report.

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

**Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

**Consultees**

There has been public awareness as part of Dover District Council’s development of their Local Plan and current review. There was specific consultation on the Dover Fastrack scheme in Summer 2020 as part of the scheme development. Consultation has also been carried out by the planning authority as part of its consideration leading to the recent grant of planning consent.

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

• Financial Implications – There are no financial implications to KCC capital budgets as these decisions relate to the infrastructure elements only. Dover District Council made a successful funding bid through Homes England’s Marginal Viability Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) for the delivery of the project. The Fastrack operation aspects are and will continue to be

subject to a separate decision route.

- **Estimated cost and funding**

The overall estimated cost of the project is circa £20m, and main funding is from central government together with a contribution from Dover District Council. Funding is being progressively drawn down from Homes England by Dover District Council and KCC will always be in a cash positive position. The construction estimate is considered robust with a significant contingency and risk provision but will be kept under review

### **Support documents**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

**Reference No:** Invicta Law are providing support.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**  
**21/00046 - A229 Bluebell Hill Improvement Scheme**

**The Decision needed:**

The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation is requested to give approval to:

- i) the feasibility design options for A229 Blue Bell Hill Improvement Scheme to be developed and further explored to establish a preferred option which best meets the objectives for the scheme;
- ii) to progress the preferred option through the next stages of development and delivery including any ancillary works such as drainage and environmental mitigation;
- iii) to submit a planning application/development consent order for the scheme, following completion of the outline design process and public consultation;
- iv) take all steps necessary to obtain and implement all Statutory Orders and approvals or consents required for the schemes;
- v) all acts required to acquire the land and rights for the carrying out and completion of the A229 Blue Bell Hill Improvement Scheme, including by means of a compulsory purchase order;

vi) to enter into Agreements to allow the County Council to design and deliver a scheme on Highways England and Network Rail (High Speed 1) infrastructure;

vii) to enter into Large Local Majors funding, developer funding and other such funding Agreements subject to the approval of the Corporate Director for Finance;

viii) to enter into construction contracts as necessary for the delivery of the scheme, subject to the approval of Strategic Commissioning;

(ix) the Corporate Director of Growth, Environment & Transport, under the Officer Scheme of Delegations, to take further or other decisions as may be appropriate to deliver the A229 Blue Bell Hill Improvement Scheme in accordance with these recommendations.

#### Background

The A229 Blue Bell Hill is a strategically important link providing the shortest route between the M2 and M20 and connecting both the County town of Maidstone and the conurbation of Medway.

The scheme is needed to provide improvements to the junctions at either end of Blue Bell Hill, A229/M2 J3 and A229/M20 J6, as well as the length of Blue Bell Hill itself, to provide safer and more reliable journeys for strategic traffic, including following the opening of the Lower Thames Crossing, and additional capacity to support local growth.

#### Options (other options considered but discarded)

Two options are currently being progressed (options 1 and 2 from the public consultation) and will be further developed to establish a preferred option which best meets the objectives of the scheme. A third option was presented at public consultation but has since been dropped as a result of further design work which showed unacceptable impacts on the M20 and surrounding area.

#### How the proposed decision meets the challenges in the Interim Strategic Plan

- Economic Challenge - Bring forward infrastructure to stimulate economic growth

The project brings central government funding into the county to invest in infrastructure, supporting the construction industry and supply chain and providing an opportunity for green infrastructure.

- Demand Challenge - Understand and meet long-term demand for transport

The project considers the use of active travel, providing facilities and routes for walking and cycling and provides additional capacity to accommodate future growth.

- Demand Challenge - Invest in effective prevention

The project provides opportunities for asset upgrades and maintenance as part of the scheme, provides improved quality assets and aims to minimise future maintenance liabilities.

## Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when

### Who is taking the Decision

Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

### Date:

Not before July 2021

### Reason if Key Decision

- Equalities implications
  - An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed (Version 1 dated 09 September 2020).
  - Further updates to the EqIA will be carried out during the development of project.
  
- Data Protection implications
  - DPIA is not required for the scheme as a whole.
  - Some survey work may require DPIA (for example traffic surveys)

### Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan

## Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors

### Consultees

A public consultation was undertaken in Autumn 2020. A report summarising the consultation is available at [www.kent.gov.uk/a229bluebellhill](http://www.kent.gov.uk/a229bluebellhill)

Further consultations are planned once further scheme development work has been undertaken.

Cabinet Committee consultation planned: Environment and Transport  
Cabinet Committee 29 June 2021

## Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.

### Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:

The maximum total cost is currently £199m (based on the current development stage of the project – Strategic Outline Business Case). It should be noted that this project is currently within the existing budget book (Row 60 Page 57 section 5 – Capital Investment Plans) at £99m based on the Pre-strategic Outline Business Case costing.

The project has been put forward to the Department for Transport funding from their Large Local Majors programme which would contribute 85% of the project costs. The remainder of the funding shall be sought from developer contributions and other external funding.

KCC is currently forward funding £1.6m from its feasibility reserve capital line for the development cost of the scheme and this will be reimbursed through

developer contributions and other external funding should the DfT funding be secured and the scheme progress.

### Support documents

**NOT BEFORE 24 JUNE 2021**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

**Reference No:** There are no legal issues regarding the strategy.

- Data Protection implications  
The consultation report has been developed closely with the consultation team to ensure that no personal data is shared.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**  
**21/00045 - Vision Zero - Road Safety Strategy for Kent**

**The Decision needed:**

- Background

Vision Zero road safety strategy for Kent states an ambition of zero deaths on Kent’s roads by 2050, adopting the Safe Systems Approach which includes: Safe Roads and Streets, Safe Speed, Safe Behaviours, Safe Vehicles and Post Collision Response, to achieve this goal. The strategy proposes ‘Community CIRCLE’ listening to and working with local communities to reduce road danger, to enable KCC to be more proactive in our approach.

- Options (other options considered but discarded)

Not to adopt the new strategy but this would mean continuing with a primarily reactive approach to road safety which does not reflect the ambition of zero deaths on Kent’s roads by 2050 or the broader proactive working with partners and local communities supported by the Safe systems approach

- How the proposed decision meets the challenges in the Interim Strategic Plan

**Financial Challenge:** Cost Avoidance: The costs from road injuries are significant, the social care implications alone of a serious injury to a child are substantial. Safer roads and streets will lower these costs in the long



term. It is also essential that this authority produces an ambitious strategy to stand a good chance of attracting central government and grant funding.

**Economic Challenge:** Development of safer streets could be part of the investment to spur growth. Increasing the public's confidence that their journey will be safe, can only benefit the economic recovery from the pandemic.

**Demand Challenge:** Working with partners, stakeholders, and communities to share responsibility for road safety will in the medium to long term reduce demand for KCC services.

**Partnership Challenge:** Vision Zero - Safe Systems – Community CIRCLE is all about working in partnership to achieve combined goals. Partnering with communities, stakeholders, internal teams, and departments. Working with KALC members will be the focal point.

**Environmental Challenge:** Creating safer streets will encourage more walking and cycling and lower car use with benefits for health, environment, and air quality. The focus on safer vehicles will also have benefits in creating cleaner vehicles.

- **Financial Implications:**

It is essential that the authority maintains its financial commitment to road safety education and engineering. The revenue budget for the Casualty Reduction Team for staff and education, training and publicity, transport intelligence, safety camera partnership, safer mobility and road crossing patrols currently stands at £1,810k pa. This does not include the capital budgets required for engineering works.

The implementation of the strategy and the drafting and development of subsequent delivery plans will be met from existing base budgets. This will allow us to build the evidence base to leverage in central government funding, the level of which will depend on how quickly we will be able to meet our Vision Zero aspirations. At the time of writing, we do not have details for the next funding round.

There are therefore no direct immediate financial implications for this strategy, as it outlines a new approach which can be tailored to available funding. In the longer term the adoption of this strategy will enable KCC to lever higher levels of funding for safer roads and streets from central government and charities.

Reducing the level of serious injuries on Kent's roads will also reduce the County Council's spending on social care and special education.

- **Legal Implications**

There are no legal issues regarding the strategy.

- Equalities implications

An EqlA was undertaken before we went to consultation which showed no major equalities issues. Representatives of protected characteristic groups were invited to consult on the strategy and attend stakeholder meetings. Disability groups for instance have contributed to the consultation and are supportive of Vision Zero.

- Data Protection implications

The consultation report has been developed closely with the consultation team to ensure that no personal data is shared.

## **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

### **Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

### **Date:**

Not before June 2021

### **Reason if Key Decision**

An EqlA was undertaken before we went to consultation which showed no major equalities issues. Representatives of protected characteristic groups were invited to consult on the strategy and attend stakeholder meetings. Disability groups for instance have contributed to the consultation and are supportive of Vision Zero.

### **Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

## **Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

### **Consultees**

The public consultation took place between 26<sup>th</sup> January and March 16<sup>th</sup>

[Vision Zero: The Road Safety Strategy for Kent 2020 - 2026 - Kent County Council Consultations \(inconsult.uk\)](https://www.kent.gov.uk/consultations)

## **Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

### **Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

It is essential that the authority maintains its financial commitment to road safety education and engineering. The revenue budget for the Casualty Reduction Team for staff and education, training and publicity, transport intelligence, safety camera partnership, safer mobility and road crossing patrols currently stands at £1,810k pa. This does not include the capital budgets required for engineering works.

The implementation of the strategy and the drafting and development of subsequent delivery plans will be met from existing base budgets. This will allow us to build the evidence base to leverage in central government funding,

the level of which will depend on how quickly we will be able to meet our Vision Zero aspirations. At the time of writing, we do not have details for the next funding round.

### **Support documents**

### **Responsible Cabinet Member - Cabinet**

**Reference No:** Delivery of the Reconnect Programme fits within the legal powers and duties held by the County Council. Where specific grant funding streams are used by the Programme, spend will be in accordance with the grant conditions. Spend will also be made in accordance with KCC's rules on spending the Council's money.

**Key** Yes

### **Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

### **21/00044 - Reconnect: Kent Children and Young People Programme**

**The Decision needed:**

**Reason for the decision**

In March 2021, Cabinet approved the creation of the programme and agreed to delegate authority to the Corporate Director for Children, Young People and Education, in consultation with the Leader and the Cabinet Members for Integrated Children's Services and Education and Skills, to take necessary actions, including but not limited to, entering into relevant contracts or other legal agreements, as required to establish the programme and undertake relevant preparatory work within normal delegated spend thresholds.

The programme commenced in April 2021 and resource has been seconded to deliver the programme. In accordance with the decision of Cabinet in March 2021, a further key decision is needed to confirm the scope, objectives, outcomes and funding of the Reconnect Programme, together with confirmation of the governance and delegation arrangements to enable Reconnect to successfully achieve KCC's aim of reconnecting children and young people in Kent to: learning missed; sport, activities and the outdoors; health and happiness; friends, family and communities; and economic wellbeing.

**Background**

The Covid-19 pandemic has significantly affected children and young people, and it is recognised nationally and internationally that children and young people have sacrificed more than most over the course of the pandemic.

The County Council determines it vital that the whole Kent community supports our children and young people to reconnect with the things they have missed over the past year.

The programme will run from April 2021 until the end of August 2022 and will be available to all children in Kent, from the age of 2 to 19 years old (or 24 years old if they have special educational needs and/or disabilities). The programme's activities and support will meet different levels of need and will be **in addition to**, rather than instead of, existing services.

The programme will be delivered via a combination of existing networks and structures, including Local Children's Partnership Groups and new "Theme Teams", which will co-ordinate local delivery of the programme and make recommendations on where programme funding should be spent. A "Network Champions" scheme has been established to expand the reach of the programme and promote engagement and involvement with the programme at a local level.

An initial governance structure, consisting of a multi-agency Executive Board and an operational Delivery Board, has been established to oversee Reconnect and manage the allocated budget. The Delivery Board will lead on the operational delivery of the programme, and co-ordinate the "Theme Teams", and the Executive Board will provide strategic direction for the programme. Reconnect will also link to existing KCC governance structures, reporting to CYPE's DMT, CMT, Cabinet and Cabinet Committees as appropriate.

### **Options**

The options considered were:

- Option 1 – do nothing.
- Option 2 – use existing structures only to deliver new initiatives.
- Option 3 – use existing structures and create new temporary structures to deliver new initiatives.
- Option 4 – use new structures only these to deliver new initiatives.

Option 3 was selected as the best option for delivery of the programme because existing networks and connections can be utilised, and additional structures and resources can drive the programme and create change. This option carries a funding requirement because resources are required to introduce, integrate and manage new structures, but this option provides the framework that gives the programme the greatest chance of success.

### **Alignment of the programme to KCC's strategic objectives**

The County Council's stated vision for Children and Young people is:

*"We want the best for all children in Kent. Our driving ambition is to deliver the best outcomes we can for all children, young people, and their families. We constantly aim for Kent to be the most forward-looking area in England for care, education and learning, supported by specialist and early help services so that we are the best place for children and young people to grow up safely, learn, develop and achieve."*

The Reconnect programme seeks to support the achievement of this vision, providing enjoyable opportunities for children and young people to engage in to help them be safe, learn, develop, and achieve.

## **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

### **Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet

#### **Date:**

June 2021

### **Reason if Key Decision**

- 1) The programme aims to be universal, supporting all children and young people aged 2 to 19/24 years old.
- 2) A good proportion of the external funding has grant criteria targeting this to vulnerable and disadvantaged individuals, with clear eligibility criteria such as entitlement to Free School Meals. This is intended to help ensure household income is not a barrier to participation.
- 3) Efforts will be made to target specific groups who are vulnerable, either by raising their awareness of the opportunities provided by the funding to ensure they do not miss out, or by direct provision of support.
- 4) Evidence on the impact of Covid-19 on protected characteristics will be sought and used to influence decision making.
- 5) Any document made available to the public to support accessing funds will also be made available in accessible formats as appropriate.
- 6) An EqlA screening will be completed by the appropriate organisation for all initiatives using this funding.

### **Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

## **Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

### **Consultees**

The timing of Cabinet and Cabinet Committee meetings following the County Council elections does not provide the opportunity for Cabinet Committees to consider Reconnect before Cabinet. However an all Member briefing has been arranged for 16<sup>th</sup> June 2021, views from which will be conveyed to Cabinet. A report will be provided to CYPE Cabinet Committee for noting, confirming the situation. Views on the Reconnect programme have been sought from Opposition Members and the Chairs of Local Children's Partnership Groups. Feedback has been positive and Members recognise the importance of the programme and the need to fund it accordingly.

## **Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

It is proposed that the programme be provided with dedicated KCC funding and be the umbrella for specific grant funding which supports the aims of Reconnect. The activities and projects funded by the programme will be additional to the core activity of KCC's directorates, and the funding commitments will be time limited and will not be a recurring cost to the Council beyond 31 August 2022. Recommendations relating to funding for the programme will be made as part of the year end outturn report which will be presented to Cabinet in June 2021.

**Support documents**

**NOT BEFORE 11 JUNE 2021**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

**Reference No:** Once an EP Plan and Schemes are made by the Council, measures and facilities agreed by the authority will become a legally enforceable commitment. An Enhanced Partnership is a statutory scheme with a procedure that must be followed. Invicta Law will be commissioned to support the legal elements of the EP.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**  
**21/00043 - Statutory Notice for Enhanced Partnership for Buses**

**The Decision needed:**

Proposed Decision:

To issue the required statutory notice of the intention to form an Enhanced Partnership (EP) for bus services in Kent.

Reason for the decision:

- Background  
On 15 March, the Department for Transport published its wide-ranging National Bus Strategy entitled "Bus Back Better".

It is a strategy which sets out ambitious goals. It is backed by £3 billion of investment across England and a commitment to repurpose current funding. It is aimed at seeing passengers benefiting from "more frequent, more reliable, easier to use, easier to understand, better coordinated and

cheaper bus services.”

There is an expectation that local authorities will work closely in partnership with bus operators, particularly those with commercial services, to better integrate bus routes and ticketing to make travel easier for passengers.

Investment is expected to facilitate this including both revenue funding (for example for reducing fares and increasing bus services) and capital funding (for example for measures to improve bus operating speeds by reducing delays).

The strategy sets an ambitious timeline for Local Transport Authorities (LTAs) to comply with the strategy, which allows continued access to both current and future funding. Operators also need to co-operate with this process to retain their funding streams.

The required timelines to be met are as follows:

1. LTAs and bus operators must commit in principle to the introduction of EPs by 1st July 2021. An EP is an agreement between LTAs and bus operators to work together to improve bus services
2. LTAs are required to publish a Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) by the end of October 2021. Guidance on the content of the BSIP is expected this month
3. The EP will be developed in line with the Statutory processes to achieve implementation of the EP Plan and EP Schemes by April 2022.

#### Options:

The National Bus Strategy effectively narrows the decision down to just two options. Firstly, to comply with the procedure and timescales set out by the DfT, or secondly, not to proceed with the BSIP and EP process. However, the latter course of action would put access to current and future government funding at risk; potentially £7m grant funding to KCC

- How the proposed decision meets the challenges in the Interim Strategic Plan:

The proposed decision supports the:

- Demand challenge to better understand and meet the long-term demand for transport
- Environment challenge to delivery net zero for Kent by 2050 and promote climate resilience
- Economic challenge to champion the green and rural economy to meet specific challenges that arise from living and working in rural communities.

## **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

### **Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

**Date:**

Not before June 2021

**Reason if Key Decision**

There are no equality implications in entering into Enhanced Partnerships with local bus operators.

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan****Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors****Consultees****Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.****Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

At this stage, there are no significant financial implications to KCC whilst plans are being developed.

The BSIP is to be published by the end of October 2021 and will be subject to a further key decision before submission submitted to the DfT who will then advise Kent's funding allocation.

Once this is known, the EP can then be formed out of the BSIP action plans for introduction from April 2022. It is by that point that the Council will need to have committed to investment in the partnerships.

Further papers will be submitted to Cabinet at appropriate points including proposals for KCC expenditure.

**Support documents**

**NOT BEFORE 9 JUNE 2021**

**Responsible Cabinet Member - Leader of the Council**

**Reference No:** • Kent County Council will be asked to enter into a grant funding agreement or sign a grant funding offer letter (or equivalent) with the UK Government for any project, successfully awarded UK CRF.

- In addition, if the project applicant is a third party, Kent County Council



will be asked to enter into a grant funding agreement with that organisation.

#### Data Protection implications

- Data Protection has been considered, a privacy notice has been issued (<https://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/information-and-data/access-to-information/gdpr-privacy-notice/economic-development/uk-community-renewal-fund-privacy-notice>), and the bid data is being held securely.

**Key** Yes

### **Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

#### **Title:**

**21/00042 - UK Renewal Fund - Bid submission**

#### **The Decision needed:**

##### **Proposed Decision**

As Leader of the Council, I agree that Kent County Council shall:

- Agree the submission to Government of one shortlist of UK Community Renewal Fund bids per district.
- Act as the accountable body for projects within Kent's geographical boundaries that are selected by the Government to receive UK Community Renewal Fund
- Delegate the authority to the Director of Growth and Communities, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer, to sign on KCC's behalf a grant offer letter or equivalent, where this is required to draw down funds following the award of funding by the UK Government.
- Delegate the authority to the Director of Growth and Communities, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer, to approve the transfer of funding to third-party project promoters, whose bids are successfully awarded funding by the UK Government.

#### *Reason for the decision:*

The decision is required to enable bids to be submitted to Government, so that funding may be secured from the new UK Community Renewal Fund.

#### **Background**

##### **The UK Community Renewal Fund (UK CRF): Overview**

The Chancellor announced the creation of a new Fund, called the UK

Community Renewal Fund, in his budget statement in early March 2021.

The UK Community Renewal Fund, which will run in 21/22 only, is a UK Government (MHCLG) programme worth £220m. This new fund aims to support people and communities most in need across the UK to pilot programmes and new approaches to prepare for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

By 18 June 2021, the Government is seeking project proposals from any legally constituted organisation (be they from the public, private, voluntary or community sector) that will:

- Invest in skills
- Invest in local businesses
- Invest in communities and place, and/or
- Support people into employment.

Projects should also contribute towards the Government's net-zero carbon objectives, and demonstrate that they are innovative pilot projects that will help shape, mould, and influence the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, which is expected to be rolled-out from 2022 onwards, and will replace EU funding streams.

The UK Government has included the four districts of Canterbury, Gravesham, Swale and Thanet within its 100 priority places for the deployment of this Fund across the UK – yet the Fund's prospectus makes clear that bids could be accepted from every single district within the UK, and that multi-district bids are also eligible to apply. However, it will be more difficult for projects predominantly operating in districts not on the priority list, to secure funding when the Government assesses the projects and makes its final funding award decision.

Full details about the fund are available at:

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-community-renewal-fund-prospectus> and
- [www.kent.gov.uk/ukcommunityrenewalfund](http://www.kent.gov.uk/ukcommunityrenewalfund)

### **Kent County Council's role**

The Government has designated County Councils (such as KCC) and Unitary Authorities as the lead authorities for administering the call for UK CRF projects on its behalf.

The UK Government has instructed lead authorities to undertake these tasks:

- Invite bids from a range of Project Applicants, including but not limited to universities, voluntary and community sector organisations, and umbrella business groups.
- Undertake constructive engagement with local partners, including but not limited to lower tier local authorities and elected representatives, and other public, private and third sector organisations.
- Collaborate with other Lead Authorities or partners across the UK where relevant – for example to promote cross-border project

opportunities that address needs in common or achieve efficient delivery scale.

- Appraise and prioritise a shortlist of projects up to a maximum of £3m per place (i.e. per district).
- Submit a shortlist to UK Government (by no later than 18 June) who will assess the proposals and select projects based on the criteria set out in the UK Community Fund Prospectus.
- Enter into a funding agreement with UK Government to deliver any successful bids.
- Issue agreements to successful bidders once funding has been agreed by the UK Government, and then undertake monitoring and assurance activity.

### **Options**

The options available to Kent County Council are:

- Do nothing, or
- To advertise the fund, invite applications, shortlist the bids by district, and submit these shortlists to the Government for their consideration.

The 'do nothing' option was discarded, as the prospective investment of UK Government funding would benefit for Kent's communities, business and residents.

### **How the proposed decision meets the objectives of Setting the Course: the Interim Strategic Plan**

The potential outcome of submitting the shortlist of bids to Government is that the Government will choose to fund the bids that focus on investment in skills, business, communities and place and supporting people into employment, and support the decarbonisation agenda. This investment, if awarded, will help KCC to address the following challenges which are listed in Setting the Course:

- The economic challenge: *this activity attracts investment to support growth*
- The partnership challenge: *through collating the bids from partners, this Fund presents important opportunities to build on strengthened relationships.*
- The environmental challenge: *project bids will demonstrate a contribution to the net-zero carbon objectives or wider environmental considerations.*

## **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

### **Who is taking the Decision**

Leader of the Council

### **Date:**

Not before June 2021

### **Reason if Key Decision**

- Each prospective bid to the UK Community Renewal Fund is being assessed for appropriate equalities consideration.

#### Data Protection implications

- Data Protection has been considered, a privacy notice has been issued (<https://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/information-and-data/access-to-information/gdpr-privacy-notice/economic-development/uk-community-renewal-fund-privacy-notice>), and the bid data is being held securely.

### **Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

### **Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

#### **Consultees**

- Information about the fund has been published on [www.kent.gov.uk/ukcommunityrenewalfund](http://www.kent.gov.uk/ukcommunityrenewalfund) for prospective applicants to see.
- A KCC press release was issued, alongside social media activity.
- Nineteen workshops and meetings were held with prospective applicants. The workshops and meetings were open to all interested parties. Email enquiries were also responded to.
- A presentation about the opportunity was given to the Kent & Medway Business Advisory Board.
- Information about the opportunity was circulated publicly and disseminated through existing email networks. Local partners were asked to disseminate the call for projects as widely as possible during the pre-election period, and include details in their press releases and newsletters. Specifically, local partners included local authorities (district council leaders, CEOs, and economic development officers and officers with contacts to the voluntary and community sector), business membership organisations (e.g. the Chamber of Commerce, the Federation of Small Businesses, the Institute of Directors), and skills forums (e.g. the Employment Taskforce, and the Kent Association of Training Organisations).
- As part of the assessment process, constructive engagement is taking place with local partners. A local stakeholder evaluation panel is being held in every district between 10<sup>th</sup> May and 21<sup>st</sup> May, with the respective Member(s) of Parliament, the District Council Leader, the District Council Chief Executive, a Further Education Sector Representative, a Kent & Medway Growth Hub Representative, a Kent & Medway Economic Partnership business representative, a Voluntary and Community Sector representative, and a Kent Environment Board representative invited to attend. The local stakeholder panel is being consulted on the strategic fit of the projects, specifically whether the project aligns with local need, has evidence of local support, and addresses the investment priority within their geography. The views of

the local stakeholders, coupled with the independent assessment of the project's deliverability, effectiveness and efficiency by a consultancy, will be fed back to Kent County Council's Leader and Cabinet Members, before they take their decision on which projects to shortlist.

**Have local members' views been sought & a Cabinet Committee consultation planned?**

Full details on the fund were published by the UK Government on 16<sup>th</sup> March, as Kent County Council entered into the pre-election period. As a result of this, the views of local members could not be sought before the election, nor were there any Cabinet Committee meetings scheduled between mid-March and the election, where details could be shared about the new Fund.

Local members will be engaged once the election results are known, and an update will be given to the relevant Cabinet Committee once they reconvene.

**Which Divisions / Local Members are particularly affected:**

All divisions may be affected, however the local members representing a division within the districts of Canterbury, Gravesham, Swale and Thanet may be particularly affected, as the UK Government has designated these districts within its 100 priority places.

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

- The maximum amount that Kent County Council will be able to secure is £36million
- On behalf of the Section 151 officer, a financial due diligence and credit check is being undertaken on all applicants before their bids is potentially shortlisted to be sent to Government.
- A flat rate of 2% of each project's UK CRF may be used by the lead authorities (such as Kent County Council) for the costs incurred in managing fund awards.

**Support documents**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services

**Reference No:** Legal advice will be sought in relation to the contract award.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

## **21/00041 - Technology Refresh Programme - End-User Devices**

### **The Decision needed:**

Reason for the decision-

KCC decision 15/00106 detailed a new End-User Device renewal programme (Technology Refresh Programme (TRP) 2017-2021). The original devices purchased under this initiative, which are still in use within KCC, are now reaching the end of their useful life. The replacement of devices enables continued delivery of the Council's services and for the Council to exploit its technology capabilities. The contract will be over £1million and is therefore a key decision.

### **Background**

The procurement exercise and device strategy is a key enabler to the delivery of KCC's strategic ambition to support a modern workforce using modern technology tools. The Council over recent years has been increasing the mobility of its workforce, which has further accelerated as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, with over 6,000 KCC staff now working remotely. The TRP is critical to support the Council's ongoing ambition to work flexibility and embrace a digitally enabled approach to the way services are delivered. The strategy will consider the optimum model which supports the Council's future operating model and include the procurement, build, distribution, and ongoing management of the devices throughout their lifecycle. The strategy will be developed within the wider context of the Council's Technology Strategy and ensure that the specifications are such that the Council is able to respond to the future pace of change and fully utilise the benefits of the Council's technology investments.

The new arrangement will need to cover the following equipment types:

- Laptop computers
- Tablet devices (such as Apple iPad and Microsoft Surface)
- Monitors
- Docking stations and other accessories
- Desktop computers to support a community provision such as public access to PCs in libraries.
- Mobile devices

The initial device specifications set out in the tender, will be sufficient to adequately support the various job profiles identified in the KCC Workforce Strategy. Any device will support the latest operating systems, automated set-up and device-management, Microsoft Office 365 productivity suite and security products, and Council line-of-business applications.

The outcome of this procurement is to provide flexibility, to ensure that the Council is able to access a selection of devices to meet its business needs, for both staff and Members. It will be designed to allow the specifications to change over the life of the contract, as device models are

replaced, but also cater for new device-types as they arise within the personal computer device category.

Options (other options considered but discarded)

1. Maintain current stock for a further 12 months - current policy is to hold laptop stock for four years and desktop PCs for five years. The current kit has a warranty for three years, with the volume of laptop repairs increasing for the older devices over the last 12 months. Older devices (2016/17 stock) are now needing frequent hardware support and maintenance, as well as being unable to support key modern workplace software tools (Microsoft Teams, etc).

As part of the strategy and procurement process, we will also consider the options for Device as a Service (which also encompasses device management) as well as a more traditional lease arrangement, alongside a purchase of the hardware and the current management arrangements.

## **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

### **Who is taking the Decision**

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services

### **Date:**

Not before July 2021

### **Reason if Key Decision**

An EQUIA will be completed.

### **Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

## **Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

### **Consultees**

The proposed decision was considered and endorsed by Policy & Resources Cabinet Committee on 13 July 2021.

## **Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

### **Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

The expected budget requirement for a full End-User Device refresh is expected to be circa £6million if purchased upfront. A budget is available and has been allocated within the current Asset Management Reserve for this. The current ongoing device-support arrangements are included in the technology budgets and are delivered by Cantium Business Solutions. If the strategy and procurement led to a leasing or Device as a Service solution, the money provisioned within the reserve, along with the annual budgets within the Council for ongoing device support, would be used to meet annual costs.

**Support documents**

21-00041 PROD Technology Refresh Programme 21-00041 LH

21-00041 Technology Refresh Programme Exec Dec Report to Mr Oakford v3

**NOT BEFORE 24 MARCH 2021**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

**Reference No:** A new section 75 agreement will be needed between the council and CCG that sets out the governance requirements and accountability that will cover the proposed LD&A strategic leadership body and system provider partnership.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**21/00033 - Review of Kent County Council and Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group Integrated Commissioning Framework, covering health services, social care and community support for people with a learning disability and autistic people (LD&A)**

**The Decision needed:**

Proposed decision

To enter into such agreements that are necessary with the Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and other local NHS organisations to create a new strategic planning and delivery framework for Kent’s residents with a learning disability and autistic people and delegate authority to Corporate Director of Adult Social Care and Health to finalise and approve the formal agreements to establish the new framework.

Reason for the decision

In 2015/16 Kent County Council and the seven NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) covering Kent and Medway, agreed to establish an integrated and partner strategic planning, commissioning and delivery framework covering healthcare, council social care and other support for Kent’s residents with a learning disability, and autistic residents. This framework is governed by an agreement between Kent County Council and Kent and Medway CCG, agreed in accordance with the provisions of section 75 of the NHS Act 2006. This framework includes an Alliance Partnership comprising the council’s adults social care service and the



two NHS provider trusts that deliver specialist community health care for people with a learning disability and autistic people. This includes Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust (KCHFT) and *Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust (KMPT)*.

The framework covers community delivered services for people living in nursing and residential care; residents living with carers and their families and people living in their own homes or who live in specialist housing with support. The arrangement also covers specialist healthcare and support for residents with a learning disability and autistic people with highly complex needs, including Kent residents admitted to specialist hospitals located both in and outside Kent.

A review of the arrangements summarised above, commissioned by Kent County Council but jointly agreed with Kent and Medway CCG identified challenges with how the council and NHS plan together to design and deliver effective solutions that can achieve strong and improving health and well being outcomes for Kent's residents with a learning disability and autistic people.

The challenges identified:

- Kent's current Learning Disability and Autism (LD&A) governance and programme management framework is:
  - Confusing with several bodies duplicating effort and decision making and ineffectual structural relationships between each body
  - Not competent to develop and implement a whole system strategy and strategic commissioning programme
  - Not fully sighted or driven by the priorities, challenges and resource pressures of all partners and is largely reactive to short term issues and targets
  - Less than clear about how the voices of learning disabled and autistic people impact or affect key decisions, with a deficient approach to coproduction and system codesign
- Improvement is required in the effectiveness of whole system commissioning and programme management
- Significant improvement is needed in whole system accountability and performance reporting, as investment decisions lack clarity on why and how they were determined and there is a lack of effective data and narrative to demonstrate the outcomes that are being achieved
- Improvement is also needed in the alignment, commissioning and coordination of service delivery across adults, children and young people and complex needs to ensure:
  - Effective and seamless care pathways;
  - Person centred and codesigned support;
  - Outcome driven delivery;
  - Stronger market management and micro-commissioning, to address service deficits and to support innovation to address changing needs and expectations.

Through extensive engagement and coproduction of the solutions to address the challenges above, the proposals summarised below emerged through

a clear consensus of council and NHS leaders, frontline professionals and health clinicians and critically through face to face engagement and workshops with people with a learning disability, autistic people and carers supported by advocates and advocate organisations.

#### Summary proposals

The establishment of:

- A single senior level strategic leadership body of equal partners across the local authority, CCG, user and carer voice and system provider
- A joint LD&A strategic commissioning and programme management unit, supporting whole system planning, development and change management and the function of the strategic leadership body
- A trusted system provider based on an effective NHS and council partnership, delegated to deliver and micro commission all LDA health and social care support.

### **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

#### **Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

#### **Date:**

Not before March 2021

#### **Reason if Key Decision**

An equalities impact assessment has been completed. It identified significant wellbeing and health inequalities affecting the lives of Kent's residents with a learning disability and autistic people including:

-A lack of effective health checks linked to residents with a learning disability and autistic people having a substantially lower life expectancy than all other residents and significantly increased risk of death from Covid

-More Kent autistic residents and residents with a learning disability with additional mental health and behavioural needs, are in specialist hospital services in comparison to the rest of England

-This adversely affects and impacts their choice, independence and human rights

-There is a need for more effective equalities monitoring of people with a learning disability and autistic people cared for in specialist hospitals as national evidence suggests that black and black British people are 4 times more likely to be compulsorily admitted to spec

#### **Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

### **Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

#### **Consultees**

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

The expectation is that the proposals set out will not result in any significant additional funding or investment commitment from the council.

However, the proposals are expected to maximise the potential of council and NHS investments, to deliver significant improvements in the outcomes achieved for people with a learning disability and autistic people through more effective and focused partner planning and decision making of all LD&A health, social care and other services.

**Support documents**

**NOT BEFORE 17 MARCH 2021**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

**Reference No:** Whilst there is no specific legal obligation for KCC to take this key decision, adoption of this document setting out our carefully considered approach to highway maintenance helps us to demonstrate that we are a competent highway authority and are fulfilling our duty under the Highways Act 1980 to maintain a safe network. As the document also includes a detailed risk assessment of our services, it also makes the authority better prepared to defend claims.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**21/00028 - Highways Asset Management Plan 2021/22-2025/26 - an Investment Strategy and Action Plan for the next five years**

**The Decision needed:**

Proposed decision:

Adoption of Highways Asset Management Plan 2021/22-2025/26 – An Investment Strategy and Action Plan for the next 5 Years.

To adopt and publish a single document that sets out our approach to highways asset management over the next five years.

Background and reasons:

Over the past years we have significantly developed our approach to highways asset management enabling KCC to maximise Department for Transport (DfT) funding. As part of this work, KCC has formally adopted various key documents - Our Approach to Asset Management in Highways, Implementing Our Approach to Asset Management in Highways and Developing Our Approach to Asset Management in Highways. We have also introduced various measures to implement the Well-managed Highway Infrastructure (WMHI) code of practice, again resulting in the adoption and publication of a range of documents – Applying the code of practice in Kent, Implementing the code of practice in Kent and A Risk Based Approach –

Service Level Risk Assessments. As a result we have been able to demonstrate consistently that we are a Band 3 DfT Incentive Fund authority, make the case for additional funding, and optimise our ability to defend claims. Collectively, these published documents form our existing Highways Asset Management Plan (HAMP).

Despite making significant progress in recent years, we, as other highways authorities, are in an increasingly challenging environment, with deteriorating assets, increasing traffic volumes, uncertainty around future funding and, more recently, facing the impacts of the global pandemic. It is therefore timely to develop a new single and updated HAMP document, to identify a clear investment strategy and associated action plan for the future that is fit for purpose and recognises the challenges and opportunities ahead.

The new document is a forward-looking document covering the next five years which:

- includes a vision statement
- sets out how highways asset management, as a key enabling service, contributes to achieving strategic outcomes and delivering Kent's interim strategic plan
- describes how we go about asset management and risk-based decision-making
- explains what we know about the condition of our assets both now and going forward based on various investment levels
- sets out what our service levels are in terms of what we do and what we do not, alongside an assessment of associated risks
- outlines our asset management and WMHI improvements and achievements in recent years
- includes a five-year forward works programme (for specific asset groups), and
- lists the actions we will take forward in the coming years to further improve our approach to asset management, maximise asset lifespans, reduce lifecycle cost and improve future maintainability.

In addition to being an asset management plan for highways, the document essentially amounts to an Investment Strategy and Action Plan for the

next five years. It seeks to move towards treating the management and maintenance of our highway assets as a multi-year plan, rather than an annual one. In that respect, the document highlights the importance of consistency of (broad levels of) funding and approach over that longer period, to enable us to deliver a more efficient service with better condition outcomes.

At the time of writing, the Department for Transport has only confirmed the levels of capital grant to be provided for highway maintenance in 2021/22. **This funding is, in real terms, around 20% lower (around £9m) than in 2020/21 (but higher than 2019/20), though KCC was able to maintain existing budget levels overall in 2021/22 using unallocated 20/21 resource.**

There is considerable uncertainty about DfT funding in 2021/22 and beyond. In the event that available resource over the next five years is considerably different to the broad levels of funding assumed in our analyses, (based on current funding levels continuing), the new strategy provides detailed information to enable informed decision-making around how we prioritise investment going forward. **The HAMP document confirms our approach to asset management and how funding is allocated, which is particularly important in the event that funding reduces.**

The main document also proposes new maintenance hierarchies for our road and footway assets, following detailed work during the last year in which we examined a number of options. The preferred hierarchies are based on those recommended in WMHI, as these provide sufficient granularity for our use given the scale and make-up of Kent's network. For roads, we have adjusted the WMHI hierarchy to include our Resilient Highway Network as a new top category. The proposed hierarchies also enable us to adjust our future inspection and maintenance approach, for example to move resource away from little used or impassable country tracks, so that higher risks can be targeted.

The new HAMP document also sets out in detail the asset management and related services we provide (and equally those we do not), and an assessment of risk associated with that balance.

## **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

### **Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

### **Date:**

Not before March 2021

### **Reason if Key Decision**

An Equality Act Impact Assessment screening has been carried out and it is judged that the proposals do not disproportionately affect protected groups. Indeed, the approach outlined in the document better enables

KCC to target resource, for example on footway maintenance in areas with higher populations of older and disabled residents.

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

**Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

**Consultees**

**No public consultation is planned. The document is largely recording the current approach in a single document, outlining future improvements and seeking consistency of approach/funding to enable a more efficient and optimised service to be provided.**

**Cabinet Committee consultation planned:**

Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee – 29<sup>th</sup> June 2021

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

This decision does not have direct financial implications. However, it does include an assessment of the effect of current funding levels in terms of the services we provide (and what we do not), associated risks levels, and also forecasted condition trends. In the event that funding over the next five years is significantly different, it would be necessary to understand and record the effect on service levels, risks and future condition.

**Support documents**

**NOT BEFORE 5 MARCH 2021**

**Responsible Cabinet Member - Cabinet Member for Education and Skills**

**Reference No:** No legal implications have been identified currently but any legal implications will be identified in the report to the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education before he takes his decision.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**21/00017- Proposal to establish a 16 place Specialist Resourced Provision (SRP) for ASD at Garlinge Primary School & Nursery from September 2021**

**The Decision needed:**

Proposed decision:

- (i) Issue a public notice to establish a 16 place Specialist Resourced Provision (SRP) for Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) at Garlinge Primary School & Nursery from September 2021.

And, subject to no objections being received to the public notice

- (ii) Establish a 16 place Specialist Resourced Provision (SRP) for Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) at Garlinge Primary School & Nursery from September 2021.

This decision is conditional upon planning permission being granted where required.

Reason for the decision:

The Children, Young People and Education Committee report for Garlinge SRP will inform the committee of a decision that will need to be taken by the Member for Education and Skills after the March CYPE committee but before the next CYPE committee date in June. The decision cannot wait until the June committee date because May is the latest point at which the decision can be made and allow sufficient time for the statutory process to be completed for a September 2021 opening.

The decision is required as part of the statutory process to publish the public notice enabling the establishment of the 16 place SRP at Garlinge Primary School and Nursery for September 2021.

Background:

The Local Authority is responsible for maintaining Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) for children and young people between the ages of 0-25 years. As of January 2020, this totalled 13,499 children and young people with an EHCP. This is an increase of 1,736 since January 2019, an increase of 14.8% compared to 10% nationally.

The number of pupils in the Thanet District with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) in January 2020 was 16,000. This was an increase of 16% from 2019. 2% of Kent's EHCP cohort live in Thanet district and as at January 2020, 5.5% of the pupils aged 5-19 years in Thanet (maintained and independent) were subject to an EHCP. Pupils with an EHCP in Kent are less likely to be educated in a maintained mainstream school than would be expected nationally. A number of students with an EHCP require a higher level of support than can be provided in mainstream schools, but their needs are not so complex that a special

school placement is appropriate. For these students a range of Specialist Resourced Provisions (SRPs) which are based in mainstream schools with places reserved for students with an EHCP are established. The establishment of SRPs attached to mainstream schools is part of the continuum of provision to enable pupils to be included within mainstream settings.

Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) remains the most common primary need type with 41.2% of children and young people aged 0-25 years having an EHCP with this primary need identified in Kent. This is an increase from 40.3% in January 2019. Nationally ASD is also the most common primary need, but Kent's percentage is significantly higher than the national figure of 30%

Currently we are establishing an SRP for ASD for 16 pupils at Holy Trinity and St Johns Primary School. This proposal will complement the provision at Holy Trinity and St. John's Primary School and provide additional capacity and choice for parents in the Thanet district. A 20 place Secondary SRP for ASD is also planned for the new secondary school in Thanet which will work closely with the two primary SRPs

Options:

Options regarding the establishment of SRPs have been fully investigated with the SEN team and Garlinge Primary School and Nursery was considered to be the best option (in addition to the approved SRP at Holy Trinity and St. John's primary School) for the establishment of an SRP for ASD for 16 children. The school's governing body is fully supportive of the proposals. This additional provision will enable choice for parents in Thanet with a child who requires additional support from an SRP provision.

- How the proposed decision meets the objectives of 'Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes: Kent County Council's Strategic Statement (2015-2020)'

This proposal will help to secure our ambition "to ensure that Kent's young people have access to the education, work and skills opportunities necessary to support Kent business to grow and be increasingly competitive in the national and international economy"

The proposal also supports the 'Strategy for children and young people with Special Educational Needs 2017-19. The aim of the SEND strategy is to improve the educational, health and emotional wellbeing outcomes for all of Kent's children and young people with special educational needs and those who are disabled.

Kent's Strategy set out an intention to provide additional places for pupils with the following need types: Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Speech Language and Communication Needs (SLCN), and Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH).

The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent 2021-2025 sets out our commissioning intentions to meet the need for specialist provisions



across Kent. A mixture of new schools, expansion of existing and the establishment of satellites and SRPs will be commissioned across Kent to meet the need.

## **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

### **Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

### **Date:**

Not before March 2021

### **Reason if Key Decision**

An Equality Impact Assessment has been produced as part of the consultation process for both proposals and is attached. The assessment identified the following positive impacts:

- Children with ASD in the Thanet district will be able to attend provision local to their homes.
- Children with ASD will be able to attend SRP provision in mainstream primary schools in Thanet.
- There will be two SRPs for Primary school aged children with ASD established in the Thanet District.

No adverse impacts were identified during the assessment. The outcome of the public consultation and community consultation will enable the Local Authority to test out these assumptions.

### **Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

## **Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

### **Consultees**

## **Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

### **Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

Capital Cost

A feasibility study is currently being carried out at Garlinge School to develop the proposals for the establishment of the SRP. The high level feasibility estimates the costs to be in the region of £778,848. The SRP will have 2 classrooms, care facilities and small group rooms. The CYPE Cabinet Committee report in March and the decision paper in May will confirm the costs as the concept designs are prepared and surveys completed for the planning application.

Revenue Costs

As per KCC policy a total of £6,000 per newly provided classroom will be provided to the school from the DSG revenue budget.

Human

KCC will work closely with the senior leadership teams of the school to ensure that all appropriate accommodation and facilities are provided to enable them to deliver an effective curriculum.

**Support documents**

**NOT BEFORE 10 FEBRUARY 2021**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Community and Regulatory Services

**Reference No:** KCC will need to enter into and or vary a number of legal agreements with Medway Council in order to secure the project. KCC will need to terminate, enter into and or vary a number of legal agreements to deliver the scanning services which will affect current suppliers. KCC will need to enter into a number of legal agreements to develop and deliver the site. Including potentially purchase of the site

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**  
**21/00010 -Digital Autopsy**

**The Decision needed:**

Proposed Decision:

In relation to the delivery of the Digital Autopsy facility, to delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Growth, Environment and Transport to:

Enter into and or vary significant legal agreements including, but not limited to, a Service Level Agreement, Memorandum of Understanding and Collaboration Agreement with Medway Council and any other stakeholders as required.

Enter into and or vary contracts for the delivery of the Digital Autopsy service including, but not limited to, body scanning and body transport.

Consult with the Director of Infrastructure and enter into all necessary legal agreements for the delivery and the construction of the project,

including purchase of the site if necessary.

Reasons for Decision:

KCC has a statutory responsibility for funding all the costs of the Coroners Service for Kent and Medway with Medway Council contributing 15.3% (based on Medway population) to the running costs of the service. Included in this is the provision of a mortuary service which is currently delivered through NHS hospitals on a contract basis.

There are several issues putting the continuation of the current service levels at risk:

- 1. NHS mortuaries are struggling to store the Coroner Services bodies as they do not have sufficient capacity to deal with the normal throughput of Coroner cases during the winter period, as well as their own hospital deaths. To do so they must hire in temporary storage for which KCC must pay for, and which is a growing pressure on the service.**
- 2. Pathologist costs have and are continuing to rise sharply due to a national lack of staff which has created significant unfunded pressures for the service. This cost has been rising year on year due to a shortage of pathologists available in the Kent area and or who are willing to commit their time to Coroner work. The number of Pathologists working on Coroner cases has reduced in recent times and therefore agency pathologists with much higher costs have had to be commissioned.**
- 3. The uncontrollable nature of both the lack of mortuary capacity and pathologist staff builds in risk to the Coroner Service budgets, which have as a result, increased year on year.**
- 4. There remains a potential risk of a Judicial Review if the current arrangements adversely affect service delivery to the statutory standards set by government.**

This project enables KCC to deliver a Digital Autopsy and body storage facility. The digital solution will deliver a body image scanning facility that will seek to provide efficiencies for the service, by significantly reducing the number of invasive post-mortems required and making the process quicker and more efficient. This in turn will deliver an improved level of service to the communities in Kent, from having their loved ones returned sooner and avoiding the need for invasive procedures which is not supported by some faith groups and can be distressing for some families.

This digital approach is supported by the Kent Senior Coroners, while also future proofing the resilience of the service and mitigating future

unfunded costs. It could also strengthen KCC's ability to respond to Mass Fatalities and mitigates against significant financial outlays that would come with such an event.

#### Options

Other options considered included:

1. Do nothing – (continue with outsourcing model)
2. Digital Autopsy all the way through to construction
3. Digital Autopsy all the way through to construction and Public Mortuary to planning – preferred option
4. Digital Autopsy and Public Mortuary all the way through to construction

KCC has a statutory responsibility to support the Coroner Service and meet all service costs.

### **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

#### **Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Community and Regulatory Services

#### **Date:**

Not before February 2021

#### **Reason if Key Decision**

Equalities impact has been completed and some positive impacts have been identified as per the earlier text and no adverse impacts have been identified in the Equalities Impact Assessment. This will be kept under review as the project progresses.

No adverse data protection issues are expected as part of this project.

#### **Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

### **Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

#### **Consultees**

Public consultation will be undertaken wherever it is required as part of the delivery of the Digital Autopsy service including planning for example.

The proposed decision will be taken to Growth, Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee date to be confirmed.

Views have been sought from local Members

### **Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

KCC is seeking to invest up to the approved budget of c£3M in delivering the Digital Autopsy and body storage facility in Kent. We will be seeking a financial investment from Medway Council towards the delivery of the scheme .

KCC is seeking to deliver revenue savings as part of this project .

Row ref 10 p9 of KCC 2020/21 Budget Book.

**Support documents**

**NOT BEFORE 14 APRIL BY CABINET MEMBER**

**Responsible Cabinet Member - Cabinet**

**Reference No:** There are no legal implications arising from the decision.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**20/00027 - Clean Up Kent and Public Realm Improvements**

**The Decision needed:**

**Proposed Decision:**

- a) Approve a programme of works to deliver a range of projects to ‘clean up’ Kent and to improve the public realm across Kent
- b) Approve the proposed funding allocations and project development arrangements required to support and deliver the programme; and
- c) Delegate authority to the Corporate Director for Growth Environment and Transport to take relevant actions, including but not limited to, entering into relevant contracts, legal arrangements or other arrangements, as necessary to implement this decision.

**Background:**

*Kent’s Future, Our Priority* will become Kent County Council’s new 5 Year Plan, to replace the previous strategic statement ‘*Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes (2015-2020)*’. The Plan is structured around seven

outcomes which reflect the key things that residents and businesses said were essential to a good quality of life in Kent. One of the seven outcomes is, 'A cleaner and greener Kent.'

A key message from the recent public consultation was that residents care about the places they live in, they are proud of where they live, and want to protect these places by looking after the quality, maintenance and cleanliness of our physical environment, especially town centres, local streets, beaches, public rights of way and green spaces.

**Options:**

It was also clear from the public consultation that residents wanted the County to be clear how it will deliver the plan. This detail is contained within the 5-Year Plan objectives including working with partners to improve the quality of Kent's public realm. It is intended that a range of physical improvements will be developed, in conjunction with local stakeholders to reflect different priorities but will be targeted at cleaning up and improving the quality and appearance of the public realm.

**Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

**Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet

**Date:**

Not before April 2020

**Reason if Key Decision**

- Equalities implications  
Equalities Implications:  
There are no equality implications directly arising from the decision. An EqlA will be undertaken for individual projects as they are developed.
- Data Protection implications  
No personal data will be collected, therefore there are no data protection implications.

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

**Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

**Consultees**

The decision is based on consultation feedback from the 5 Year Plan. Consultation included targeted workshops and a public consultation. Members were also involved via a cross-party Member workshop and political group briefings. The Leader also wrote personally to key partners to welcome their views in the consultation.

The proposed decision will be discussed at the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee on 31 March and final decision will be taken at Cabinet on 27 April 2020.

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

An allocation for funding has been made from the Growth for Strategic Statement Priorities revenue budget line. There is also potential for Districts and Boroughs to match fund.

**Support documents**

**NOT BEFORE 18 JANUARY 2020 BY CABINET MEMBER**

**Responsible Cabinet Member - Cabinet Member for Education and Skills**

**Reference No:** Any legal implications will be identified in the report to the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills before he takes his decision to allocate the funding.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**20/00007 - Proposal to permanently increase the capacity at Pilgrims Way Primary School, Pilgrims Way Canterbury CT1 1XU**

**The Decision needed:**

**Background –**

The Kent Commissioning Plan for Education 2019-2023 identifies a need for additional places in the Canterbury City Planning Area from 2021 this is due to pressures from new housing developments in Canterbury City and specifically the private development on the former Howe Barracks Site. This development will produce a total of 500 new homes. In addition to this, the refurbishment of former army houses by Redbridge Council is resulting in 38 new families moving in from November 2019. To mitigate the need for places, it is proposed that Pilgrims Way will expand by 0.5 forms of entry (FE) to become a 2FE Primary school. Pilgrims Way is the nearest primary school to these developments and was named for any developer contributions linked to the development of private housing on the former barracks site. Canterbury City Council Local Plan identifies

16,000 new homes over the plan period to 2031. 8,737 are planned for the Canterbury area, with 6,533 in the Canterbury City Primary planning area where Pilgrims Way Primary School is located. Pilgrims' Way Primary School was registered as a new school on 1st May 2018 and is part of the Veritas Academy Trust. They are awaiting their first Ofsted inspection. Currently Pilgrims Way has 261 on the school roll with 31 on the nursery roll totalling 292 (May school census 2019)

**Proposed decision –**

To expand Pilgrims Way Primary School by increasing the Published Admissions Number (PAN) from 45 places to 60 places from September 2021.

**Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

**Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

**Date:**

Not before January 2020

**Reason if Key Decision**

An Equality Impact Assessment has been produced as part of the proposal and will be considered as part of the decision making process.

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

**Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

**Consultees**

A public consultation was held between 4 October 2019 and 22 November 2019 and the feedback from this will be included in CYPE Cabinet Committee report. During this period a pre planning consultation event was held at the school on Monday 18 November 2019.

The report to the CYPE CC to approve the proposal will be presented at the 10 January 2019 cabinet committee meeting.

The local member has been informed of the proposal and their views have been sought during the public consultation period. Their view will be included in the CYPE Cabinet Committee report.

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

The feasibility estimates the costs for this proposal to be £1.9m and the CYPE Cabinet Committee report will update costs as the concept designs are prepared and surveys completed for the planning application. Up to £2,500 is



provided for each newly provided learning space for ICT equipment from the Capital budget. Totalling £10,000 for this project. £81,473.63 in developer contributions has been collected by Canterbury City Council towards the 0.5FE expansion of Pilgrims Way Primary School. A further £843,560 is expected but not received and £4,986 has been requested but not agreed. A total of £930,019.63 is therefore expected from developer contributions towards the expansion. As per KCC policy a total of £6,000 per new learning space will be provided to the school from the DSG revenue budget. For this proposal, costs will be £24,000.

**Support documents**

**NOT BEFORE 18 DECEMBER BY 2019 CABINET / CABINET MEMBER**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Economic Development

**Reference No:** A legal agreement will need to be drawn up between KCC and Essex County Council to effect the transfer of Growing Places Fund monies to KCC.

A legal agreement will need to be drawn up between KCC and the borrower to transfer the Growing Places Fund monies to the borrower. The loan agreement would incur a charge being taken against the assets of the borrower.

KCC would maintain responsibility for monitoring repayments from the successful borrower.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**  
**19/00095 - Discovery Park: Growing Places Fund**

**The Decision needed:**

Proposed Decision:

- *Kent County Council be the administration and funding decision authority for the £5.3m allocation from SELEP’s Growing Places Fund;*
- *KCC draws down capital funds of £5.3m from the Growing Places Fund;*
- *KCC makes available loan finance of up to £5.3m from the Growing Places Fund to support works at Discovery Park to build a spine road and associated infrastructure to enable the building of 500 new residential*

homes;

- *Authority be delegated to the Director of Economic Development to take appropriate actions, including but not limited to, entering into legal agreements as necessary to implement this decision.*

*Provided that:*

1. *Kent County Council is able to agree a satisfactory loan agreement from Essex County Council as the accountable body for SELEP's Growing Places Fund; and*
2. *The receipt of a satisfactory application for loan finance for the works at Discovery Park subject to the rules of the Growing places Fund and the findings of an independent financial appraisal.*

**Background:**

KCC shall invite applications for loan finance of up to £5.3m for infrastructure at Discovery Park. This £5.3m will be obtained from the Growing Places Fund (GPF), which is administered by the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP). Applications will then be appraised and considered through the same process as that which is currently used to determine applications for loans from the Kent and Medway Business Fund (KMBF). This means that any application will be required to submit a full business plan, be subject to independent appraisal and be considered by the KMBF Investment Advisory board before a decision is made by KCC. The owners of the Discovery Park site are aware of this proposed process and we anticipate that an application will be forthcoming when the process is launched. In parallel with this process, KCC shall seek to enter into a loan agreement with Essex County Council (the Accountable Body for GPF). These terms have been discussed with Essex County Council and have received an in-principle agreement. However, they will need to be formalised when an agreement to lend to a borrower have been reached.

**Options (it is a legal requirement (2012 Executive Arrangements regulations) to outline other options considered)**

The alternative would be for Kent County Council not to act as an agent for SELEP for the £5.3m Growing Places Fund loan. There is no evidence that this would be a more effective way of achieving the outcome of securing investment in Discovery Park, and there is a risk if the funding allocation is returned to SELEP that it is no longer ring-fenced for investment in Discovery Park or the wider Kent area.

**Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

**Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Economic Development

<p><b>Date:</b> Not before December 2019</p> <p><b>Reason if Key Decision</b> Equalities implications – An Equalities Impact Assessment will be undertaken should a loan application be received.</p> <p>Data Protection implications – To enable KCC to administer the Kent and Medway Business Fund, it is required to hold personal details about the borrower. KCC also collects anonymised information about protected characteristics as part of its Equalities Impact Assessment monitoring.</p> <p><b>Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan</b></p>
<p><b>Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors</b></p>
<p><b>Consultees</b></p> <p>The proposed Key Decision will be discussed at the Growth, Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee on 28 November 2019.</p>
<p><b>Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.</b></p>
<p><b>Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:</b> The loan of £5.3m will be capital funding allocated from non KCC funding sources (that is, the SELEP Growing Places Fund). KCC estimates that there will be revenue costs associated with application processing, appraisal, valuation and legal costs: these can be confirmed at the application stage. There will also be an ongoing administrative cost to KCC related to monitoring over the period of the loan, which would be covered by an administration charge levied on the borrower.</p> <p><b>Support documents</b></p>

**NOT BEFORE 27 NOVEMBER BY CABINET MEMBER / CABINET**

<p><b>Responsible Cabinet Member</b> - Cabinet Member for Education and Skills</p> <p><b>Reference No:</b> Contracting for KCC framework building contractors.</p> <p><b>Key</b> Yes</p>
<p><b>Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.</b></p>

**Title:**  
**19/00084 - Proposal to Expand West Hill Primary Academy from 72 places to 90 places in September 2020**

**The Decision needed:**  
**Background Information:**

Kent County Council (KCC) as the Local Authority has a statutory duty to ensure sufficient school places are available. The County Council's Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent 2019-23 is a five-year rolling plan which is updated annually. It sets out our future plans as Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision across all types and phases of education in Kent. A copy of the plan can be viewed from this link: <http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/strategies-and-policies/education-skills-and-employment-policies/education-provision>.

It is anticipated that there will be significant short and medium-term pressure for additional Year R places in the West Dartford Planning Group which indicates that additional capacity will be needed for 2019/20, continuing for later years.

As part of the measures being taken to address the capacity issues illustrated above, KCC is proposing that West Hill PAN to 90 for 2020.

**Proposed Decision:**

The Cabinet Member for Education and Skills proposes to expand West Hill Primary Academy, Church Walk, Dartford, Kent, DA12 2PR Dartford Road, Dartford, DA1 3DZ increasing the Published Admission Number (PAN) from 72 places to 90 places from September 2020.

## **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

### **Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

### **Date:**

Not before November 2019

### **Reason if Key Decision**

An EqlA has been completed. There are no issues identified, but officers will continue to monitor.

### **Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

## **Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

### **Consultees**

A Public Consultation ran from 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019 to 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019, with a drop-in event for stakeholders to raise issues and concerns on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019. The consultation included the community and other stakeholders, including the following groups:

- **All schools in the Dartford Borough**
- **Elected Members (Kent County Council, Dartford Borough Council)**
- **Parish and Town Councils**
- **Local MPs**
- **Dioceses of Rochester and Southwark**
- **Church Groups**
- **Residents Groups**
- **Children's Centres, Community and Voluntary Groups, Youth Groups**

This matter will be considered at the CYPE Cabinet Committee meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2019 – Ian Watts will be in attendance.

#### **Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

##### **Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

Capital:

A feasibility study has been carried out which estimates the cost of delivery being between £2.2m and £2.4m, wholly funded by the CYPE Basic Need Capital Budget.

Revenue Funding:

Should the scheme progress, £6,000 per new learning space will be provided towards the cost of furniture and equipment. This will be given to the school to purchase the required equipment.

In addition, an allowance of up to £2500 may be payable to outfit each new teaching room with appropriate ICT equipment, such as touch screens or projection equipment.

Pupil Growth Funding

The school will receive growth funding in accordance with the Pupil Growth Policy established by KCC and its Schools' Funding Forum.

##### **Support documents**

**NOT BEFORE 30 JULY 2019 BY CABINET MEMBER**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Community and Regulatory Services

**Reference No:** Kent County Council (KCC) does not have a legal duty to provide sites in Kent for the Gypsy and Traveller community. This is a

statutory duty placed upon the district and borough councils to discharge as part of their local plans. All local councils are required to produce an up-to-date Local Plan for their area, to guide the spatial development of the borough.

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**19/00052 - Gypsy and Traveller Pitch Allocation Policy**

**The Decision needed:**

Proposed Decision:

To revise and update Kent County Council's (KCC) Gypsy and Traveller Service Allocations Policy for managed sites.

**Background:**

This review work is part of ongoing, council-wide activity to update and improve our processes, policies and practices.

The priorities for the Gypsy and Traveller service are to:

- Improve current service efficiency whilst also planning for future demographic pressures within the Gypsy and Traveller community through better planning and countywide coordination on the provision of good quality sites.
- Manage the growing financial challenge by ensuring that pitch allocations are made in a clear and transparent manner and that rent affordability is confirmed prior to pitches being allocated.
- Improve licensee vetting, licence agreements and enforcement policies to ensure our sites' residents understand accepted levels of behaviour, including requirements for rent payments, both prior to being allocated a pitch and for the duration of their tenancy.

**Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

**Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Community and Regulatory Services

**Date:**

Not before July 2019

**Reason if Key Decision**

Gypsies and Travellers are protected groups under the Equality Act 2010. EQIA's have been completed to ensure impacts of policy changes have

been considered and mitigations factored in where appropriate.

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

**Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

**Consultees**

The proposed decision will be discussed at the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee on 16 July 2019.

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

The new Pitch Allocation policy will seek to redress historic issues around rent affordability and ongoing rent collection by setting out clear guidelines to all prospective tenants of the required rent arrangements and the subsequent enforcement action that will be taken if rent payments are not recovered in line with requirements.

Increased, consistent vetting of tenants will ensure that affordability of pitches is checked prior to licences to occupy being issued.

Recovery of 100% of rent costs for all tenants is critical to enable the ongoing quality, sustainable management of the sites in the future.

**Support documents**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Community and Regulatory Services

**Reference No:** This opportunity has not been subject to competition. This is supported by Regulation 32(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Contract Regulations which states that a Negotiated Procedure without Prior Publication may be used where services can be supplied only by a particular economic operator where competition is absent for technical reasons

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**19/00055 - Contract for Post Mortem Facilities at Mid Kent and Medway Coroner Area**

**The Decision needed:**

To award a 4 year contract to Maidstone & Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust (MTW) for the provision of post mortem (PM) facilities at Tunbridge Wells Hospital, Pembury for the Mid Kent & Medway coroner area.

**Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when****Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Community and Regulatory Services

**Date:**

Not before July 2019

**Reason if Key Decision**

An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and there is no potential for discrimination and all opportunities to promote equality are currently being taken in line with KCC policies and statutory requirement. Should any issues arise they will be dealt with in accordance with KCC policies and statutory requirements.

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan****Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors****Consultees**

The proposed decision was considered and endorsed at the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee on 16 July 2019.

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.****Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

Based on 2018-19 activity levels the estimated cost for the 4 years is £676,000

**Support documents**

**NOT BEFORE 30 APRIL 2019 BY CABINET MEMBER**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education

**Reference No:** N/A



<b>Key</b> Yes
<b>Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.</b>
<p><b>Title:</b>  <b>19/00031 - Increase in the designated number at The Elms School, Dover</b></p> <p><b>The Decision needed:</b>  Background:</p> <p>The Elms School is a good school designated for 96 pupils with behaviour and learning needs. Currently the school has 130 pupils on roll. This number is expected to increase to 158 from September 2019. It is necessary therefore, to regularise this situation and increase the designated number of the school via a statutory process.</p> <p>Legislation requires that statutory proposals are undertaken where the number of pupils on roll of a special school exceeds its designated number by more than 10%. Therefore, we are proposing to increase the designated number to 158, to regularise the current position and to increase the number of places available.</p> <p>Proposed decision:</p> <p>Increase the designated number of The Elms School, Dover from 96 to 158 places</p>
<b>Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when</b>
<p><b>Who is taking the Decision</b>  Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education</p> <p><b>Date:</b>  Not before April 2019</p> <p><b>Reason if Key Decision</b>  The Equality Impact Assessment is in place. No adverse impacts have been identified at this point.</p> <p><b>Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan</b></p>
<b>Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors</b>
<p><b>Consultees</b></p> <p>A consultation will take place in April/May 2019.</p> <p>The Children’s, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee will receive</p>

a report on this matter in June 2019.

The view of the local members will be sought as part of the consultation.

#### **Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

##### **Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

The Elms School will receive the funding for the pupils in line with the funding allocated to special schools through KCC's funding formula. A feasibility study needs to be undertaken to assess what, if any accommodation will need to be needed to enable the increase in the designated number.

##### **Support documents**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education

**Reference No:** KCC will accept the contractual responsibilities for the construction contracts to deliver the new school.

**Key No**

#### **Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

##### **Title:**

**19/00037 - New St Andrew's Primary Free School Contract Approval**

##### **The Decision needed:**

##### **Background:**

In July 2016 the Department for Education approved a Wave 11 bid proposed by the Tenax Trust to establish the St Andrew's Primary Free School at Paddock Wood, Tunbridge Wells. The proposed new school will have the capacity for 420 pupils (2 FE) from reception to year 6. The bid also included an estimated 60 nursery places. The Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) is responsible for funding the delivery of the new school.

The ESFA has appointed KCC to act as the Local Delivery Agent (Responsible Body), with Gen2 acting as KCC's Agent. As the Responsible Body, KCC will commit to procuring and delivering the scheme and will be the contracting authority for the purpose of the scheme. As the Responsible Body KCC is also responsible for compliance with all relevant statutory obligations and is required to secure any statutory approvals required to deliver the scheme.

#### **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

<p><b>Who is taking the Decision</b> Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education</p> <p><b>Date:</b> Not before May 2019</p> <p><b>Reason if Key Decision</b> Tenax Trust and the Department for Education will have considered the equality impacts of opening a new school as part of their decision making. In respect of this proposed decision, to agree KCC can enter into a contract to deliver the school building, there are no known equalities implications.</p> <p><b>Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan</b></p>
<p><b>Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors</b></p>
<p><b>Consultees</b></p> <p>The matter does not need to be considered by the Infrastructure Commissioning Board as the proposal is outside of the terms of reference.</p> <p>Consultation on the proposal to open a new school would be a matter for Tenax Trust and the DfE.</p>
<p><b>Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.</b></p>
<p><b>Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:</b> The ESFA has allocated funding for the build costs of the school (circa £8.35 million) and this will be secured within a Development Agreement prior to KCC entering any Construction Contract. There will be no capital funding requirements from KCC in relation to the scheme and therefore no impact on the County Council's MTFP.</p> <p><b>Support documents</b></p>

**NOT BEFORE 17 APRIL 2019 BY CABINET MEMBER**

<p><b>Responsible Cabinet Member</b> - Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education</p> <p><b>Reference No:</b> N/A.</p>
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<b>Key No</b>
<b>Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.</b>
<p><b>Title:</b>  <b>19/00028 - Expansion of Palmarsh Primary School</b></p> <p><b>The Decision needed:</b>  Background Information:</p> <p>In January 2017 permission was agreed to release £2,200,000 from the Education and Young People’s Services Capital budget to enable Palmarsh Primary School to expand to 1FE. It was understood that this would be the first phase of a gradual expansion to 2FE.</p> <p>The first phase of the expansion would provide 3 new classrooms, a new entrance off Jubilee Close, offices and car parking with further classrooms being added in later phases.</p> <p>Planning permission for the first phase of the expansion has been achieved. However, in order to secure the said planning permission significant adaptations needed to be made increasing the capital costs to £2,600,000.</p> <p>Options:</p> <p>Consideration has been given as to how we can scale back the first phase of the expansion plans, ensuring there is: is sufficient high quality classroom space for the school to expand to 1FE; provision of a new entrance off Jubilee Close; increased car parking and the completion of agreed s278 works.</p> <p>Sufficient classroom space could be achieved via the removal of an old mobile classroom and replacing this with a new two classroom mobile unit. The new offices and permanent classrooms could be delivered in a later phases as an when there is a need for second FE of provision. The total costs for the mobile classrooms, new entrance off Jubilee Close, car parking and s278 works would be in the region of £700,000.</p> <p>A variation to the present planning permission will be required if this was to proceed.</p> <p>Proposed decision:</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education is asked to release £625,000 of the £2,200,000 already agreed from the Children, Young People and Education Capital budget to expand Palmarsh Primary School to 1FE.</p>
<b>Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when</b>
<b>Who is taking the Decision</b>

Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education

**Date:**

Not before April 2019

**Reason if Key Decision**

The Equality Impact Assessment is in place. The variation in plans will not impact on the judgements in the EqIA.

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

**Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

**Consultees**

This matter will be considered by the Infrastructure Commissioning Board on 30 April 2019 or 24 May 2019.

A consultation on expanding to 1FE was undertaken in 2016, as there is no change to this decision further consultation is not required.

The report will be submitted to the Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee meeting on 28 March 2019.

The view of the local member will be sought prior to the Cabinet Committee meeting.

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

£1,200,000 has been secured in developer contributions of which £887,000 has been paid so far. The estimated costs for the mobile classrooms, new entrance, carparking and s278 works would be in the region of £700,000. The School will put the £75,000 towards this from their capital funding with the rest coming from the Children, Young People and Education Capital budget. The School will receive increased funding through the Delegated Budget. The rising roles will be protected in line with KCC Growth Funding Policy. Revenue funding will also be allocated to enable the School to resource one of the classrooms. At present that is at a value of £6,000.

**Support documents**

**NOT BEFORE JANUARY 2018 BY CABINET MEMBER**

**Responsible Cabinet Member - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for**

<p>Finance and Traded Services</p> <p><b>Reference No:</b> Provision of this service is a statutory responsibility. The market was tested to establish levels of interest.</p> <p><b>Key</b> Yes</p>
<p><b>Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.</b></p>
<p><b>Title:</b>  <b>17/00125 - Healthwatch Kent interim contract</b></p> <p><b>The Decision needed:</b>  Proposed decision: To agree:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the implementation of an interim contract for the provision of a Local Healthwatch for Kent for the period April 1<sup>st</sup> 2018 to March 31<sup>st</sup> 2020, with sufficient break clauses to end earlier where appropriate; and</li> <li>b) To incorporate the Service User Forum and Mental health Action Groups into the Healthwatch Kent contract</li> </ol> <p>How the decision relates to Corporate Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioning Framework Principle 7: Customers at the heart of our commissioning approach</li> <li>• KCC’s commissioning of a Healthwatch for Kent is required by duties under the Health and Social Care Act 2012, which built upon the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007</li> </ul> <p>The matter is referred to in the Business Plan/Medium Term Capital Programme.</p>
<p><b>Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when</b></p>
<p><b>Who is taking the Decision</b>  Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Traded Services</p> <p><b>Date:</b>  Not before January 2018</p> <p><b>Reason if Key Decision</b>  No equalities implications – whole Kent provision.</p> <p><b>Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan</b></p>
<p><b>Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors</b></p>
<p><b>Consultees</b></p>

<p>The proposed incorporation of the Service User Forum and Mental health Action Groups into the Healthwatch Kent contract was discussed by the Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee on 23 November 2017.</p> <p>The interim contract will be discussed by the Health Reform and Public Health Cabinet Committee on 24 January 2018.</p>
<p><b>Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.</b></p>
<p><b>Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:</b> The value of the proposed interim contract is up to £1.46M (£730k pa) for the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2020.</p> <p><b>Support documents</b></p>

**NOT BEFORE OCTOBER 2017 BY CABINET MEMBER**

<p><b>Responsible Cabinet Member</b> - Cabinet Member for Corporate and Democratic Services</p> <p><b>Reference No:</b> None</p> <p><b>Key</b> Yes</p>
<p><b>Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.</b></p>
<p><b>Title:</b> <b>17/00094 - Disposal of Land East of Great Chart Primary School, Singleton</b></p> <p><b>The Decision needed:</b> Approval to the Director of Infrastructure to progress with and enter into the necessary documentation to complete the disposal of the aforementioned property in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Corporate and Democratic Services. The Decision will seek legal agreements to be actioned to complete the sale of the relevant properties.</p>
<p><b>Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when</b></p>
<p><b>Who is taking the Decision</b> Cabinet Member for Corporate and Democratic Services</p> <p><b>Date:</b> Not before October 2017</p> <p><b>Reason if Key Decision</b></p>

None
<p><b>Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan</b></p> <p>Securing a capital receipt to fund the capital programme and to streamline the Council's property portfolio to achieve financial and efficiency benefits in line with appropriate policy</p>
<p><b>Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors</b></p>
<p><b>Consultees</b></p> <p>Property decisions to be discussed at the Property Sub Committee.</p>
<p><b>Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.</b></p>
<p><b>Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:</b></p> <p>Property holding costs will cease upon sale.</p>
<p><b>Support documents</b></p>

**LONG TERM**

<p><b>Responsible Cabinet Member - Cabinet Member for Corporate and Democratic Services</b></p> <p><b>Reference No:</b></p> <p><b>Key Yes</b></p>
<p><b>Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.</b></p>
<p><b>Title:</b></p> <p><b>Lawn Primary School, Gravesend - New Playing Field</b></p> <p><b>The Decision needed:</b></p> <p>Update 01 February 2017: Officers have confirmed that the decision is still 'live' and that KCC continue to work with the landowner regarding use of the land and any consequential s106 arrangements. The process is expected to be lengthy and is likely to be ongoing for the duration of 2017.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>The Cabinet Member will be asked to agree that KCC take a long lease of 99 years at a nominal rent from Lafarge to facilitate expansion of school roll. Lafarge to create new playing field and to maintain subsoil thereafter. The Playing Field is being delivered as part of a s106 Agreement being a</p>



contribution to mitigate the impact of adjacent development of 510 homes upon Lawn Primary School and free up space on the existing Lawn PS site to enable expansion of the existing school buildings from 1FE to 2FE.

## **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

### **Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Corporate and Democratic Services

### **Date:**

Before January 2018

### **Reason if Key Decision**

This decision is considered as a key decision owing to the length of the lease, in accordance with the Council's Property Management Protocol

### **Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

## **Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

### **Consultees**

The proposed Cabinet Member decision will be considered by the Property Sub-Committee at its meeting scheduled 27 March 2015

## **Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

### **Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

Lead officer: Kahren Knott – Estates Surveyor, Property & Infrastructure Support

03000 416356

kahren.knott@kent.gov.uk

Lead Director: Rebecca Spore – Director of Property & Infrastructure Support

03000 416716

Rebecca.spore@kent.gov.uk

### **Support documents**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education

**Reference No:** 16/00101

**Key** Yes

## **Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's**

## Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.

### Title:

### 16/00101 - Proposal to expand Marden Primary School

### The Decision needed:

The Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education will be asked to agree to:

- i. Expand Marden Primary School, Goudhurst Road, Marden, Tonbridge, Kent, TN12 9JX, from 280 places to 420 places, increasing the published admission number (PAN) from 40 to 60 for Year R entry in September 2018
- ii. Allocate the budget from the Basic Needs budget (full details to be provided within the Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee Report)

In accordance with Appendix 4 Part 2 16 (a) of the Council's constitution, the Council's Executive Scheme of Officer Delegation provides that "Once a Member-level decision has been taken.....the implementation of that decision should be delegated to officers..." In this instance it is envisaged that the Director of Infrastructure will inherit the authority to act and will enter into any necessary contracts/ agreements on behalf of the County Council or further delegate responsibilities in accordance with 16 (c) of the same scheme "Senior Managers exercising delegated powers will...be able to sub-delegate...functions to more junior officers"

## Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when

### Who is taking the Decision

Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education

### Date:

Not before January 2018

### Reason if Key Decision

This proposal will help "to ensure that Kent's young people have access to the education....necessary to support Kent business to grow ..." as set out in 'Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes: Kent County Council's Strategic Statement (2015 - 2020)' and supports delivery of KCC's responsibility to provide sufficient, high quality places where they are needed as set out in the 'Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent 2016-2020'

Financial Implications: Will be set out in the report that will be considered by the Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee.

Legal Implications: Any legal implications will be identified in the report that will be considered by the Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee

Equality Implications: An Equality Impact Assessment has been produced and can be viewed here: [www.kent.gov.uk/schoolconsultations](http://www.kent.gov.uk/schoolconsultations) .

### Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous

<b>plan</b>
<b>Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors</b>
<p><b>Consultees</b></p> <p>The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2016-20 identified Marden as an area of future need and Marden Primary School was therefore proposed for expansion to meet that predicted demand. The Plan was considered and endorsed by the Education and Young People’s Services Cabinet Committee on 15 December 2015 prior to the final version being considered and approved by Cabinet on 21 March 2016.</p> <p>A public consultation commenced on 23 September 2016 and closed on 21 October 2016. Further information is available on the School Consultation webpage: <a href="http://www.kent.gov.uk/schoolconsultations">www.kent.gov.uk/schoolconsultations</a></p> <p>The outcome of the consultation was due to be reported to Education and Young People’s Services Cabinet Committee on 23 November. The report was deferred, pending further discussions on the design and planning process and will be considered by the Cabinet Committee at its meeting scheduled for 22 June 2017</p>
<b>Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.</b>
<p><b>Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:</b>  Jared Nehra, Area Education Officer for West Kent  03000 412209  Jared.nehra@kent.gov.uk</p> <p><b>Support documents</b></p>

**UPDATE AWAITED**

<p><b>Responsible Cabinet Member - Cabinet Member for Corporate &amp; Democratic Services</b></p> <p><b>Reference No:</b> 13/00095</p> <p><b>Key</b> Yes</p>
<b>Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.</b>
<p><b>Title:</b>  <b>Disposal - Residential Land adjoining Great Clayne Lane Farm, Gravesend.</b></p>

**The Decision needed:**

To seek approval for the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Corporate and Democratic Services to progress with and enter into the necessary legal documentation to complete the disposal of residential land adjoining Great Clayne Lane Farm, Gravesend following the marketing of the site. The site has been marketed and offers received, shortlisted and a preferred purchaser has been identified. The Decision will seek for legal agreements to be actioned to complete the sale of the property.

**Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when****Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Corporate & Democratic Services

**Date:**

Not before October 2015

**Reason if Key Decision**

Financial criteria is likely to be exceeded

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan****Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors****Consultees**

Local Members Colin Caller and Jane Cribbon will be consulted before the decision is taken and all members of the council notified.

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.****Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

Lead officer: Rebecca Spore  
Director of Property & Infrastructure Support  
Tel: 01622 - 221151  
E-Mail: rebecca.spore@kent.gov.uk

**Support documents**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Corporate & Democratic Services

<b>Reference No:</b> 14.00022
<b>Key</b> Yes
<b>Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.</b>
<p><b>Title:</b>  <b>Former Shepway Resource Centre, Folkestone - Disposal</b></p> <p><b>The Decision needed:</b>  <b>LATEST UPDATE:</b>  19/05/2014 - Decision due date changed from 18/02/2014 to 01/08/2014.  <b>REASON:</b> The proposed decision to dispose of the Centre was delayed while internal processes were undertaken to ensure that no other suitable use could be found before disposal. This process is complete and the former resource centre will be placed on the market shortly. Responses from the market will be gauged after a period of approximately 3 months and a proposal for the site put forward at that time. The decision will be considered by the Property Sub-Committee or the Policy and Resources cabinet Committee before being taken by the Cabinet Member.</p> <p>-----  -----</p> <p>To seek approval to the disposal of the former Shepway Resource Centre following the marketing of the site</p>
<b>Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when</b>
<p><b>Who is taking the Decision</b>  Cabinet Member for Corporate &amp; Democratic Services</p> <p><b>Date:</b>  Not before October 2015</p> <p><b>Reason if Key Decision</b></p> <p><b>Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan</b></p>
<b>Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors</b>
<p><b>Consultees</b></p> <p>The proposed decisions will be discussed at Policy &amp; Resources’ Property Sub Committee following marketing.  The property is situated within the electoral division of Folkestone West.  Cllr Hod Birkby has been consulted.</p>
<b>Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.</b>

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

Alyson McKenna,  
01622 696032  
alyson.mckenna@kent.gov.uk  
Rebecca Spore,  
01622 221151  
rebecca.spore@kent.gov.uk

**Support documents**

**DEFERRED**

**Responsible Cabinet Member** - Cabinet Member for Corporate & Democratic Services

**Reference No:**

**Key** Yes

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council’s Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**  
**Sandwich Highways Depot**

**The Decision needed:**

**Update 09/03/2015:**

**DEFERRED: The disposals team at KCC are currently working on new plans for the site in order to ensure that the maximum value is secured; surveys are being carried out with a view to marketing the site in the future dependent on the outcome of those surveys.**

**Latest Update:**

**19/05/2014: Decision due date changed from 23/12/2013 to ‘Not before’ 01/11/2014. REASON: The disposals team at KCC are currently working on new plans for the site in order to ensure that the maximum value for the site is secured. Options appraisal work is underway and this work is expected to take approx. 6 months, therefore an expected decision date is set for November.**

To seek approval to proceed with the disposal of the above site to raise a capital receipt which will be allocated to support the capital programme.

To seek approval to identify and progress with the acquisition of a new site for the service.

The Director of Property and Infrastructure Support will be authorised to finalise terms for both the disposal and acquisition of a new site.

This decision is needed to enable a modern highway service operation to be provided in the East Kent Area that is both reactive and responsive to changing demands. It directly supports 3 of the Bold Steps for Kent.

- Firstly it helps deliver the “Kent Environment Strategy” by the provision of new environmentally friendly facilities (e.g. grey water) via the construction technique with the eventual adaptation of new work practices within the new depot.
- Secondly it builds relations with key business sectors across Kent as the supply chain involved in such a project provides work to businesses of all sizes.
- Thirdly by the better siting and provision of facilities for the new depot it ensures that the most robust and effective public protection arrangements are in place for road management including bad weather response.

The impact of the decision is that full assessment of the potential disposal of the site can be explored within the market place to ensure that best value principles are adhered to. In tandem a full search and feasibility study will be undertaken to identify a new location for the alternative highways depot which satisfies the above objectives.

## **Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

### **Who is taking the Decision**

Cabinet Member for Corporate & Democratic Services

**Date:**

**Reason if Key Decision**

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

## **Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

### **Consultees**

The matter was considered by the Property Sub Committee of the Policy and resources Cabinet Committee at its meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013. The proposed decision was endorsed by the Committee.

The report to committee was exempt from publication and consideration of it took place in private.

Public minutes can be viewed by clicking on the link below:

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/documents/g5176/Printed%20minutes%2027th-Feb-2013%2014.00%20Property%20Sub-Committee.pdf?T=1>

## **Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

**Support documents**

**Responsible Cabinet Member -**

**Reference No:** 12/020231

**Key No**

**Section 1 – the decision needed, how it relates to the Council's Corporate Outcomes and the Costs and risks involved.**

**Title:**

**Eden Centre Lease**

**The Decision needed:**

**LATEST UPDATE:**

19/05/2014 - Decision due date changed from 01/03/2014 to 01/01/2015.

**REASON:** The decision remains at the earliest stages of investigation and options appraisal. A further review will take place in January 2015 when a decision pathway will be identified and the proposed decision updated further.

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**To seek agreement to the principle of granting a long lease to a charitable community interest company or similar vehicle, of The Eden Centre, Four Elms Road, Edenbridge.**

The proposal directly links to Bold Steps for Kent, putting the citizen in control, building new partnerships and providing a new fit for purpose building to deliver Library and FSC services in conjunction with other partners such as the Citizen's Advice Bureau and House (West Kent Action), to support Kent's more vulnerable citizens.

The impact of the decision will be that KCC will have less control of the management and operation of the centre as they would become the responsibility of a third party.

Risks identified are:

- Reliance on the professionalism of the trustees to deliver a successful facility, agreeing with all partners a financial model for the charitable vehicle
- Reputational damage to KCC if the charitable vehicle were to fail
- Obtaining buy in from all community groups in occupation to form trust
- Untried and untested model
- Level of income generation from the centre which could go to the charitable vehicle is currently unknown as a new facility
- Continued KCC ownership of a non-core asset
- Officers may be unable to get agreement from stakeholders, charitable vehicle does not prove financially sustainable or the trust may break down and charitable vehicle will have to pick up void periods and associated costs (benefit



to KCC).

**Section 2 – Who is taking the final decision and when**

**Who is taking the Decision**

**Date:**

**Reason if Key Decision**

Not a key decision

**Reason if this decision has been delayed/withdrawn from a previous plan**

**Section 3 – – Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**

**Consultees**

The Eden Church, Citizen's Advice Bureau, House (West Kent Action), Edenbridge Library and FSC as partners in the centre. It is expected that representatives from all of these occupier groups will be represented by the charitable vehicle trustees, along with Sevenoaks District Council and Edenbridge Town Council.

**Section 4 – Responsible Officer – Who to contact for more information.**

**Your name, Your Service, Your phone number and email address:**

Rebecca Spore - Director of Property & Infrastructure Tel no 01622 22115, Rebecca.spore@kent.gov.uk

Barbara Cooper, Director of Economic Development. Tel no 01622 221856, Barbara.cooper@kent.gov.uk

**Support documents**

**– Who is to be consulted, how and when, ( The Duty to Inform/consult/Involve ) including relevant scrutiny councillors**