

From: Mike Whiting, Cabinet Member for Economic Development
Barbara Cooper, Corporate Director, Growth, Environment and Transport Directorate

To: Growth, Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee
17 November 2020

Subject: District Visits Programme 2021

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway of Paper: None

Future Pathway of Paper: None

Electoral Division: All

Summary: This report outlines the proposed programme of future Member visits to Kent districts in 2021.

Recommendation: The Cabinet Committee is asked to receive and endorse the report.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 At the November 2017 meeting of this Cabinet Committee, Members agreed that officers arrange a programme of informal visits to Kent districts. The objective was to provide an opportunity for Cabinet Committee Members to gain an understanding of the economic development and regeneration opportunities and challenges within each of the Kent districts.
- 1.2 The last visit was to Ashford Borough Council in October 2019. Planned visits in 2020 to Thanet, Maidstone, Canterbury, Sevenoaks and Tonbridge & Malling were suspended due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

2. Programme of Further Visits

- 2.1 Further Member visits to Kent districts are being arranged in collaboration with district and borough officers. The format for each visit involves a day-long tour of the principal economic development and infrastructure developments within each district.
- 2.2 Should Covid-19 circumstances allow, the proposed programme of visits for 2021 is planned to begin after the Local Government Elections in May:

Thanet	9th June 2021
Maidstone	24th June 2021
Canterbury	28th July 2021
Sevenoaks	22nd September 2021
Tonbridge & Malling	6th October 2021

- 2.3 Members will receive invitations to attend in due course.

2.4 The Committee has already visited Swale, Ashford, Folkestone & Hythe, Dover, Dartford, Tunbridge Wells and Gravesham as well as the Ebbsfleet Development Corporation.

2.5 As agreed by the Committee, should places be available, invitations will be extended to the Chair and Members of the Environment & Transportation Cabinet Committee.

3. Financial Implications

3.1 The cost of coach hire is approximately £350 per visit.

4. Recommendation

Recommendation: The Cabinet Committee is asked to receive and endorse the report.
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5. Contact details

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