From: David Brazier, Cabinet Member for Highways & Transport

Simon Jones, Corporate Director of Growth, Environment & Transport

To: Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee – 23 May 2023

Subject: Decisions taken between Cabinet Committee meetings

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway of Paper: Cabinet Member Decision

Future Pathway of Paper: N/A

Electoral Division: County-wide

Summary: The attached decisions were taken between meetings of this Cabinet Committee as they could not be reasonably deferred to the next programmed meeting of the Cabinet Committee for the reasons set out in paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 below.

Recommendation:

The Cabinet Committee is asked to note that decisions 23/00027 (Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) Grant Funding) and 23/00033 (Acceptance of Additional Government Pothole Funding) were taken between meetings of the Cabinet Committee in accordance with the process set out in the Council's constitution.

1. Introduction

1.1 The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport has taken decisions 23/00027 Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) – Grant Funding and 23/00033 Acceptance of Additional Government Pothole Funding respectively as they could not reasonably be deferred due to the reasons set out in paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 below.

2. Background to decisions

Decision 23/00027: Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) - Grant Funding

2.1 Following detailed negotiations with Department for Transport, KCC received a confirmed funding offer of £18,985,735 for its Bus Service Improvement Plan, which is split as £12,454,840 capital and £6,530,895 revenue. The offer was made on the proviso that KCC had to formally accept the funding by 31 March 2023. As the notification letter was not received until 3 March, there was insufficient time to bring the issue to this Cabinet Committee for discussion.

Decision 23/00033: Acceptance of Additional Government Pothole Funding

As announced in the Chancellor's Spring Budget of 2023, additional funding from Department for Transport has been secured for pothole repair activity. Kent's allocation is £6,054,800. By accepting and deploying the funding urgently officers have been able to utilise the Highways Term Maintenance contract to move quickly to help address the increased high demand levels for repairs and patching following severe weather extremes that have in turn increased the backlog of maintenance repairs.

3. Recommendation(s)

The Cabinet Committee is asked to note that decisions 23/00027 (Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) Grant Funding) and 23/00033 (Acceptance of Additional Government Pothole Funding) were taken between meetings of the Cabinet Committee in accordance with the process set out in the Council's constitution.

4. Background Documents

<u>Decision - 23/00027 - Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) - Grant Funding</u> (kent.gov.uk)

<u>Decision - 23/00033 - Acceptance of Additional Government Pothole Funding</u> (kent.gov.uk)

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