#### KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

#### **COUNTY COUNCIL**

MINUTES of a meeting of the County Council held in the Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Thursday, 13 July 2023.

Mr B J Sweetland (Vice-Chairman). PRESENT: Mr G Cooke (Chairman). Mr N Baker, Mr M Baldock, Mr P V Barrington-King, Mr P Bartlett, Mr D Beaney, Mrs C Bell, Mrs R Binks, Mr T Bond, Mr A Booth, Mr A Brady, Mr D L Brazier, Mr S R Campkin, Miss S J Carey, Mrs B Bruneau, Sir Paul Carter, CBE, Mr N J D Chard, Mrs P T Cole, Mrs S Chandler, Mr P Cole, Mr N J Collor, Mr P C Cooper, Mr D Crow-Brown, Mr M C Dance, Ms M Dawkins, Mr M Dendor, Mr R W Gough, Ms K Grehan, Ms S Hamilton, Peter Harman, Jenni Hawkins, Mr P M Hill, OBE, Mr A R Hills, Mrs S V Hohler, Mr S Holden, Mr M A J Hood, Mr A J Hook, Mr D Jeffrey, Mr A Kennedy, Mr J A Kite, MBE, Rich Lehmann, Mr B H Lewis, Mr R C Love, OBE, Mr S C Manion, Mr R A Marsh, Mr J P McInroy, Ms J Meade, Mr J Meade, Mrs M McArthur, Mr D Murphy, Mr P J Oakford. Mrs S Prendergast, Mr H Rayner, Mr O Richardson, Mr A M Ridgers, Mr D Robey, Mr D Ross, Mr A Sandhu, MBE, Mr T L Shonk, Mr C Simkins, Mr M J Sole, Mr P Stepto, Mr R G Streatfeild, MBE, Dr L Sullivan, Mr R J Thomas, Mr D Watkins, Mr S Webb, Mr M Whiting, Ms L Wright and Mr C Passmore

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr J Cook (Democratic Services Manager) and Mr B Watts (General Counsel)

#### UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

The Chairman welcomed new Member for Maidstone Central Division, Mr Passmore, to County Council and congratulated him on his success at the recent by-election.

#### 150. **Apologies for Absence** (Item 1)

The Democratic Services Manager reported apologies for absence from Mr Broadley, Mr Cannon, Mrs Dean, Mrs Game, Mrs Hudson, Mr Ozog, Mrs Parfitt-Reid, and Mr Wright.

Members were advised that Mr Chittenden and Ms Constantine had given their formal apologies and were joining the meeting virtually.

Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or Other Significant 151. Interests in items on the agenda (Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

# 152. Minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2023 and, if in order, to be approved as a correct record (Item 3)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2023 be approved as a correct record.

### 153. Corporate Parenting Panel - Minutes for noting - 12 April 2023 (Item 4)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel held on 12 April 2023 be noted.

### 154. Chairman's Announcements (Item 5)

#### Mr John Kirby

- (1) With the greatest of sadness, the Chairman informed Members of the death of Mr John Kirby, former Member for Ramsgate from 2009-2013. During his time at Kent County Council, Mr Kirby served on the Planning Applications Committee, Social Care and Public Health Cabinet Committee, Environment, Highways and Waste POC, Gypsy and Traveller Advisory Board, the Select Committee on Dementia and was Chairman of the Select Committee on Domestic Abuse. In addition to his time at Kent County Council, Mr Kirby was also appointed to a number of outside bodies including Ramsgate Town Partnership (Town Centre Management), East Kent Community NHS Trust and Sandwich & Pegwell Bay National Nature Reserve Steering Group. He was a Thanet District Councillor and was Mayor of Ramsgate in 1993.
- (2) Tributes were made by Mr Gough, Dr Sullivan, Mr Hook, Mr Lehmann, and Mr Shonk.

#### Mr Leyland Ridings

(3) With the greatest of regret the Chairman reported that Mr Leyland Ridings had very recently, on 11 July 2023, passed away. The Chairman invited Members to pay tribute to Mr Ridings at its next full meeting on 21 September 2023.

#### Motion of condolence

(4) Mr Cooke proposed, and Mr Sweetland seconded, that the Council formally record the sense of loss it feels on the sad passing of Mr Kirby and Mr Ridings and extends to their families and friends its heartfelt sympathy to them in their sad bereavements.

Agreed unanimously.

(5) The Chairman held a one-minute silence in memory of Mr Kirby and Mr Ridings.

#### KYCC - Youth Mental Health Journalist of the Year

(6) At The Day's Global Young Journalist Awards Ceremony on Thursday 15 June, Shreya Nivarty was named as the winner of the Mental Health Journalist of the Year Award. The Chairman said Shreya was a member of Kent Youth County Council (KYCC) and Chair of the Mental Health Campaign group. Shreya submitted an article about her experience with KYCC and why she got involved. The award was presented by Dr Stuart Lawrence, author of Silence is Not an Option and brother of Stephen Lawrence. The Chairman was pleased that Shreya's work had been recognised in this way and invited Members in congratulating her on this remarkable achievement.

### Birthday Honours List

(7) The Chairman referred Members to His Majesty the King's first Birthday Honours List announced in June and was pleased to refer Members to the list of Kent recipients. The Chairman formally congratulated all those who received an Honour.

#### Newly Appointed Deputy Lieutenants of Kent

(8) The Chairman referred Members to the list of newly appointed Deputy Lieutenants of Kent, appointed in June by the Lord-Lieutenant, The Lady Colgrain. Each of the seven new Deputy Lieutenants had been appointed for their positive contributions to the County and the Nation. The Chairman formally congratulated all those appointed.

#### Chairman's Charities

- (9) The Chairman thanked Members for their generous donations made at the Annual meeting in May and was delighted to start his fundraising endeavours and raise awareness for young carers in Kent.
- (10) The Chairman explained that following the presentation at the annual meeting, Ms Wright secured tickets for Young Carers to attend a music event in June at Dreamland. In total 50 family tickets and several pairs of tickets were provided, and young carers and their families enjoyed a very well-deserved activity together. The Chairman personally thanked Ms

Wright for helping to make this happen and extended his thanks to Ms Liz Addison at Dreamland, for the very kind and thoughtful gesture.

#### HMS Kent - Freedom of the County

(11) The Chairman said it was his wish, and the wish of his predecessor Mrs Lesley Game, that HMS Kent be awarded the Freedom of the County of Kent. The Chairman was delighted to announce that, in consultation with all Group Leaders, the Freedom of the County would be bestowed on HMS Kent at a specially convened meeting ahead of Full Council on 21 September.

#### 155. Questions

(Item 6)

In accordance with Sections 14.15 to 14.22 of the Constitution, 12 questions were submitted by the deadline, 9 questions were asked, and replies given. A record of all questions put and answers given at the meeting is available online with the papers for this meeting.

Questions 10 - 12 were not put in the time allocated but written answers were provided.

### 156. Report by Leader of the Council (Oral) (Item 7)

- (1) The Leader opened his report by referring to the severe and growing financial stress across local government and explained that one of the key issues for rural authorities was the balance and distribution of funding, the case for which had been put to the Secretary of State. Mr Gough said although the Secretary of State's speech to the Local Government Association (LGA) spoke of a fairer and more rational allocation of resources across authorities, much of it was focused on simplicity and flexibility in funding which, whilst also welcome, was a different issue.
- (2) Mr Gough explained that the Council was involved in three separate judicial review claims in relation to the care of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) and proceedings had recently been issued to the Home Office regarding the operation of the National Transfer Scheme (NTS). He said the three claims would be heard together and an urgent preliminary issues hearing would take place on 20 and 21 July 2023. He highlighted that the National Transfer Scheme had to operate in an effective way for the Council to meet the full range of its statutory duties and explained that whist many placements had been made by the NTS it had not always kept pace with the number of arrivals. Mr Gough stressed that it had always been the Council's priority, under extremely challenging circumstances, to deliver a safe service.

- (3) Mr Gough explained that a change in Department for Education guidelines regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) had meant that four schools in Kent had to close temporarily for roof strengthening works. Alternative provisions were established very quickly, and Mr Gough paid tribute to Members and officers across education, infrastructure, and communications for their work in minimising the disruption and anxiety for schools, children, and families.
- (4) Mr Gough referred to central government's proposals to end support for the Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) by March 2024 and said the Council had a responsibility to ensure that the achievements of the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) were maintained under the new arrangements and structure of the Kent and Medway Economic Partnership.
- (5) Cabinet on 29 June 2023 considered the devolution agenda and agreed to submit an expression of interest to government. Mr Gough said he believed the right answer for Kent and Medway, under current national policy, was a mayoral county combined authority, and said his aim was to be as wide ranging and inclusive as possible in taking the proposals forward. He highlighted that progress depended on open conversations with government and close working with partners and district colleagues.
- (6) Mr Gough referred to the reinstatement of Operation Brock and the pressure on the traffic management system over the summer months. He said this was part of a much wider issue which included the future introduction of the Entry Exit System (EES) and European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS). He said joint working, in the form of task and finish groups, had taken place with the Department for Transport and other key partners to determine long term solutions.
- (7) The Leader turned again to the financial pressures on the Council and referred to the twelve-week Community Wardens consultation that began on 12 July 2023. He acknowledged that, unfortunately, it was unlikely this would be the last difficult proposal the Council had to confront.
- (8) Mr Gough spoke positively about the Family Hubs consultation which ran until 13 September 2023 and explained that the Council, one of fourteen national trailblazers, was able to access up to £10milion in transformation funding over three years. He said this was an opportunity for the Council to work closely with the NHS and other partners to ensure that children and families received the best start in life. He explained that two pilots were being launched at Seashells Children Centre on Sheppey and Milmead Childrens Centre in Margate.
- (9) Mr Gough said the government confirmed, just ahead of the Big Free Bus weekend on 24 and 25 June 2023, the second tranche of the Bus Service Improvement Plan and said a series of measures would be taken forward to support bus travel in the county. He also explained that £6million in additional funding from government was now being deployed to tackle potholes and other road surface problems.

- (10) Mr Gough said the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Accelerated Progress Plan was in the final stages of sign off from the Department for Education and he had been pleased to join the Strategic Improvement and Assurance Board (SIAB) recently at one of their meetings.
- (11) Finally, Mr Gough commented on migration and resettlement schemes, the use of bridging hotels, and the significant challenges in terms of housing arrangements and school moves faced by children and families. Mr Gough said the Council was actively working with district colleagues to ensure the right support for families was provided.
- (12) The Leader of the Labour Group, Dr Sullivan, responded to the Leader's remarks. She referred to central government's empty promises of fairer, simpler, and more flexible funding and compared the issues that currently faced the Council to "Groundhog Day".
- (13) Dr Sullivan spoke about the lack of support from central government in relation to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children and how this had led to the Council's threat of legal action against the government.
- (14) Dr Sullivan thanked the members of the public who had given up their time to protest against the proposed closures of some Household Waste Recycling Centres in Kent. She said the right to protest was an important part of civic duty and public responsibility.
- (15) Dr Sullivan commented on the impact of Operation Brock on Kent residents across the county, especially surrounding the ports, and hoped for a long-term solution from central government.
- (16) In relation to RAAC, Dr Sullivan joined the Leader in thanking officers for their efficiency in ensuring the effected schools were safe and showed appreciation for the offer of briefings and information surrounding the required urgent key decision. She also thanked the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills for information in relation to a separate urgent key decision, acknowledging that both situations warranted the use of the urgent key decision process.
- (17) Dr Sullivan turned to Family Hubs and the Youth Investment Fund and questioned why a smaller amount of funding, than that referred to in Framing Kent's Future, was being requested. She condemned the closure of some Children's Centres and the proposal of a more digital offer, noting that this had been tried during the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown and had resulted in children not socialising, and an increased need for Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and speech and language therapy.
- (18) Dr Sullivan confirmed that the Labour Group supported devolution, however, they wanted to see power and resources go further and deeper into communities, and she questioned what the additional, and potentially costly, mayoral county combined authority layer above the Council would bring.

- She emphasised that fully funded local government with devolution down to communities was needed.
- (19) Finally, Dr Sullivan referred to SEND across the public sector where parents and groups within communities were fighting for chances and opportunities that they legally deserved. She asked for open and transparent accountability at the SEND Scrutiny Sub-Committee and the opportunity for Members to question what was being done. Dr Sullivan referred to the Accelerated Progress Plan and its submission to the DfE without sufficient public scrutiny. She referred to the funding gap in the Council's budget and hoped the Administration would be open to new ideas and solutions.
- (20) Mr Lehmann, Leader of the Green and Independent Group, congratulated Mr Passmore on his election victory and welcomed him to the Council.
- (21) Mr Lehmann spoke about events since the last Full Council in late May and said it had been the hottest June on record, both globally and in the UK, and the record daily global temperature was broken three times in the space of four days between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> July. He said the climate crisis was no longer a distant threat and any pretence that it was not happening was a failure of central government and of governments around the world. He noted that within the Leader's remarks there had not been a single mention of the climate. Mr Lehmann compared that with the leader's speeches from Full Council meetings in June and July 2020 where much of it related to the Covid-19 pandemic and said if the climate emergency was being treated with the seriousness it deserved the same would apply. He commented that sadly, any work on climate and biodiversity was curtailed by the need to balance the short-term financial stability of the Council against the long term sustainability of a habitable planet.
- (22) Mr Lehmann said the Green and Independent Group fully supported devolution; however, it was against the form of devolution which was, it appeared, currently on offer from central government. His group's definition of devolution was based around the passing down, or decentralisation of power, and not the passing up to a directly elected mayor. Mr Lehmann questioned whether any Kent leaders wanted an elected mayor and said he strongly believed that no deal was better than a bad deal at this stage.
- (23) Mr Lehmann referred to Brexit and expressed his disappointed at the reinstatement of Operation Brock. He said it was reaching a stage where a school holiday without Operation Brock in place would feel odd and regretfully acknowledged that, with the delayed implementation of the Entry Exit System, it was likely that the situation would worsen. He clarified that he felt Operation Brock made the best of a bad situation, although it was one that could have been avoided.
- (24) Regarding RAAC, Mr Lehmann also thanked officers and Members involved in the swift action taken to minimise disruption to pupils. He said he hoped that the necessary repairs and safety measures would be in place rapidly to

- ensure that the effected schools could resume normal activities as soon as possible.
- (25) Mr Lehmann said Community Wardens played a vital role in communities and his group's attempts last year to try and expand the service and, this year, to try and prevent the cutting of the service, were an indication of the value it placed on them. He said the warden's role had become more vital since the widespread removal of Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) across the county, and residents were losing trusted points of contact.
- (26) Mr Hook, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, welcomed new Member for Maidstone Central, Mr Passmore. He summarised Mr Passmore's background which included time in the Royal Navy, a varied career in business, and his current role as a management consultant helping firms meet their environmental, sustainable, and ethical standards. Mr Hook explained that Mr Passmore's great grandfather had been a Member of KCC for Sidcup and his great aunt had been a member of KCC during World War 2.
- (27) Mr Hook said his group fully supported the legal challenge against central government regarding Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children and highlighted that the protection of refugee children was a morally important issue and a national responsibility. Mr Hook condemned the painting over of children's murals at the intake centre in Kent and said he thought the spirit of people in Kent, and the country, had been misjudged.
- (28) Mr Hook said his group strongly supported the devolution of power to local levels and reminded Members of a motion submitted by his group earlier in the year. He said Kent was big enough to exercise more control and his group opposed a directly elected mayor, acknowledging the difficulties in holding an elected mayor to account. He referred to the changing of governments over time and noted that the proposal for devolution in places like Scotland and Wales was developed over many years.
- (29) Mr Hook was pleased that RAAC in schools was being addressed and referred to the future and cost of the Council's headquarters, Sessions House, and questioned when a decision regarding this would be progressed.
- (30) Mr Hook expressed his disappointment regarding the reimplementation of Operation Brock and noted that every school holiday brought Operation Brock and chaos to roads across Kent. He suggested that border controls should be changed when the Brexit agreement was reviewed in the second half of 2024.
- (31) The Leader responded to a number of points that were raised. He said he felt all groups were in broad agreement on the asylum issues and reiterated that the National Transfer Scheme had placed a significant number of children in local authorities across the country, without which a crisis would

have occurred long ago. He said issues arose where the rate of dispersal did not match the numbers of people arriving and explained that the Council secured in 2020/21 a financial regime from government which meant Kent council taxpayers were not responsible in the way they had been in the past. He said the Council had always been concerned that, without an effective scheme in place, it would not be able to deliver the full range of its statutory services.

- (32) Mr Gough said he supported the idea of devolution down to communities and said devolution was vital to address powers relating to buses and other public transport. He acknowledged Mr Hook's point that it was likely to be a process of many steps and said it was vital that, at this stage, Kent and Medway commenced a dialogue with government, so that powers and funding could be brought to the county sooner rather than later.
- (33) The Leader responded to Dr Sullivan's comments on SEND and said she had always been welcome to join the SIAB Committee, as well as the SEND Scrutiny Sub-Committee. He confirmed there was an open public approach and he had attended the multi-agency partnership board to see how different agencies were working together.
- (34) Mr Gough said he thought all the group leaders agreed that Operation Brock was simply mitigation needed to manage pressures and not the perfect solution. He expressed his concern regarding the upcoming EES and ETIAS which would also need mitigation to avoid further disruption. He stressed that the Council's Administration was deeply involved in seeking long term solutions from government.
- (35) The Leader emphasised the importance of Family Hubs in bringing together health and other key partners, to ensure the best start in life for children. Mr Gough explained that through wider outreach, as well as a digital offer, the Council could ensure that services were brought out to communities that most needed them.
- (36) Finally, the Leader joined the other group Leaders in welcoming Mr Passmore as a new Member of the Council.
- (37) RESOLVED that the Leader's update be noted.

### 157. End of Year Performance Report - 2022/23 (Item 8)

- (1) Mr Gough proposed, and Mr Oakford seconded the motion that "County Council notes the Performance Report."
- (2) The Chairman put the motion set out in paragraph 1.
- (3) RESOLVED that the County Council notes the Performance Report.

Mr Baldock asked that his vote to abstain from the recommendation be noted in the minutes.

### 158. Annual Report on Urgent Decisions (Item 9)

- (1) The Chairman highlighted to Members that detailed consideration of decisions within the report should not form part of the debate.
- (2) Mr Gough proposed, and Mr Oakford seconded the motion that "The County Council notes the report."
- (3) The Chairman put the motion set out in paragraph 2.
- (4) RESOLVED that the County Council notes the report.

### 159. External Audit - Annual Report 2021-22 (Item 10)

Mr Paul Dossett from Grant Thornton was in attendance for this item.

- (1) The Chairman welcomed Independent Auditor, Mr Paul Dossett from Grant Thornton, and explained that, in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) recommendations, audit findings would be highlighted and drawn to the attention of all Members.
- (2) Mr Paul Dossett from Grant Thornton introduced the report and answered questions from Members.
- (3) Mrs Binks proposed, and Mr Chard seconded the motion that "The County Council notes the External Audit Annual Report 2021-22."
- (4) Following the debate, the Chairman put the motion set out in paragraph 3.
- (5) RESOLVED that the County Council notes the External Audit Annual Report 2021-22.

#### 160. Proportionality

(Item 11)

(1) Mr Gough proposed, and Mr Oakford seconded the motion that "County Council:

- (a) Notes the outcome of the recent by-election and that no changes are required under the proportionality rules.
- (b) Confirms the continued delegated authority to the Democratic Services Manager, in consultation with the Group leaders to adjust the allocation of committee places in order to conform to overall proportionality requirements and manage membership arrangements in line with the details set out in this report and that considered by Council on 25 May 2023."
- (2) Following the debate, the Chairman put the motion set out in paragraph 1.
- (3) RESOLVED that County Council:
  - (a) Notes the outcome of the recent by-election and that no changes are required under the proportionality rules.
  - (b) Confirms the continued delegated authority to the Democratic Services Manager, in consultation with the Group leaders to adjust the allocation of committee places in order to conform to overall proportionality requirements and manage membership arrangements in line with the details set out in this report and that considered by Council on 25 May 2023.

### 161. Motions for Time Limited Debate (Item 12)

#### Motion for Time Limited Debate 1 – Disposable E-cigarettes

(1) Jenni Hawkins proposed, and Mr Hood seconded the following motion for time-limited debate:

"County Council requests that the Executive write to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care and the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to request that disposable vapes are banned."

- (2) Following the debate, Mr Hood proposed a recorded vote.
- (3) The Chairman put the motion set out in paragraph 2 to the vote.

Motion lost.

(4) The Chairman put the substantive motion set out in paragraph 1 to the vote.

Substantive Motion carried.

(5) RESOLVED that County Council requests that the Executive write to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care and the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to request that disposable vapes are banned.

#### Motion for Time Limited Debate 2 – ULEZ Expansion

(1) Mr Cole proposed and Mr Kite seconded the following motion for timelimited debate:

#### "That County Council:

- Notes the existing KCC commitment to air quality in Kent via the Kent and Medway Low Emissions Strategy;
- Notes the disproportionate impact the ULEZ expansion will have on essential key workers and those on low incomes;
- Requests that the Leader of the Council write to the Mayor of London, expressing this Council's considerable concern about the impact of the expansion and calling on the Mayor, explicitly, to reverse the decision.
- Requests that the Executive confirm that it will not permit any new ULEZ signs being erected on Kent County Council property nor any existing LEZ signs being changed."
- (2) Mr Hook proposed and Mr Streatfeild seconded the following amendment:

#### "That County Council:

- Notes the existing KCC commitment to air quality in Kent via the Kent and Medway Low Emissions Strategy;
- Notes the disproportionate impact the ULEZ expansion will have on essential key workers and, those on low incomes and people without access to good public transport options; and
- Requests that the Leader of the Council
  - write to the Mayor of London, expressing this Council's considerable concern about the impact of the expansion and calling on the Mayor, explicitly, to reverse the decision; and
  - lobby Government to ensure that, should the expansion progress, a scrappage scheme similar to the scheme available to Greater London residents is made available to Kent residents who work in, or have close family in, the proposed extended ULEZ area.
- Requests that the Executive confirm that it will not permit any new ULEZ signs being erected on Kent County Council property nor any existing LEZ signs being changed."
- (3) Following the debate, the Chairman put the amendment set out in paragraph 2 to the vote.

Amendment lost.

(4) Dr Sullivan proposed and Ms Grehan seconded the following amendment:

"That County Council:

- Notes the existing KCC commitment to air quality in Kent via the Kent and Medway Low Emissions Strategy;
- Notes the disproportionate impact the ULEZ expansion will have on essential key workers and those on low incomes;
- Requests that the Leader of the Council write to the Mayor of London, expressing this Council's considerable concern about the impact of the expansion and calling on the Mayor, explicitly, to reverse the decision.
- Requests that the Executive confirm that it will not permit any new ULEZ signs being erected on Kent County Council property nor any existing LEZ signs being changed."
- Requests that the Leader of the Council write to the Government to call for investment into a national scrappage scheme, investment into electronic charging points and investment into more environmentally friendly public transport that will give an affordable, reliable choice for Kent residents and businesses."
- (5) Following the debate, the Chairman put the amendment set out in paragraph 4 to the vote.

Amendment lost.

(6) The Chairman put the substantive motion set out in paragraph 1 to the vote.

Substantive motion carried.

- (7) RESOLVED that the County Council;
  - Notes the existing KCC commitment to air quality in Kent via the Kent and Medway Low Emissions Strategy;
  - Notes the disproportionate impact the ULEZ expansion will have on essential key workers and those on low incomes;
  - Requests that the Leader of the Council write to the Mayor of London, expressing this Council's considerable concern about the impact of the expansion and calling on the Mayor, explicitly, to reverse the decision.
  - Requests that the Executive confirm that it will not permit any new ULEZ signs being erected on Kent County Council property nor any existing LEZ signs being changed.

Mr Hood asked that his vote against the substantive motion be noted in the minutes.

## 162. Monitoring Officer's Section 5 Report - UASC (Item 13)

This item was taken after Item 4.

(1) The Chairman explained he had approved the addition of this urgent item to the agenda.

- (2) The General Counsel provided an explanation of the Section 5 report.
- (3) RESOLVED that the County Council notes the report.