

## KENT COUNTY COUNCIL –PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

**DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:**

David Wimble, Cabinet Member for the (Kent) Environment

**DECISION NO:**

25/00066

**For publication**

**Key decision: YES**

**Subject Matter / Title of Decision:** Internal Drainage Board Expansion

**Decision:**

As Cabinet Member for the (Kent) Environment, I agree to:

1. ENDORSE the proposed expansion of the River Stour Internal Drainage Board District and
2. ENDORSE the trial expansion of the Upper Medway Internal Drainage Board and the joint working arrangement between the Upper Medway Internal Drainage Board and Kent County Council as Lead Local Flood Authority

**Reason(s) for decision:**

The River Stour Internal Drainage Board and Upper Medway Internal Drainage Board are seeking to expand their districts under the Land Drainage Act 1991 Section 3 (1) to align with the full extent of the natural catchment boundary.

Prior to the expansion order being granted by DEFRA the Internal Drainage Boards must consult with key stakeholders including the County Council. KCC does not sit on the Boards

Endorsement from KCC is intended to form part of the formal consultation process led by the Internal Drainage Board and does not constitute final endorsement of the expansion. The decision is therefore conditional and subject to:

- The outcome of the stakeholder consultation.
- Endorsement by other key stakeholders.
- Final approval by Defra via an Expansion Order.

Should Defra be satisfied with the consultation responses, they can proceed to grant and enact the expansion order for the Internal Drainage Board (IDB) under Section 3 of the Land Drainage Act 1991

**Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:**

No public consultation by Kent County Council is planned or required.

The proposal is being considered by members of the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee at their meeting on 9 September.

**Any alternatives considered and rejected:**

Not to support the expansion, however the expansion is considered to bring benefits to Kent County Council and local communities by offering improved coordination of watercourses and flood risk management, increased resources through joint delivery of projects and improved communication with communities through a single point of contact.

**Any interest declared when the decision was taken, and any dispensation granted by the**

Proper Officer:

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signed

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date

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