

From: Linden Kemkaran, Leader
Amanda Beer, Chief Executive

To: **County Council – 18 September 2025**

Subject: Draft of the Council's Strategy, ***Reforming Kent 2025-2028***.

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Summary:

Reforming Kent 2025-2028 is the Council's new draft Council Strategy, replacing the previous administration's Strategy, *Framing Kent's Future*. The strategy is presented to County Council in draft form and the final draft will be brought back to the Council in November for approval. It sets out the challenges facing the Council over the next 3 years and the aims and objectives of the administration to meet these.

Recommendations:

County Council is asked to:

- (1) **Comment on** the draft Council Strategy, *Reforming Kent 2025-2028*.
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 *Reforming Kent, 2025-2028* (appendix1) replaces the previous administration's strategy, *Framing Kent's Future* and sets out the aims and objectives of the administration within the context of the local government policy landscape and the legacy inherited. It is a three-year strategy given the implications of Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) and the proposed creation of new council structures in Kent and Medway in 2028. It is, however, still strong in its ambition to ensure that Kent's residents feel they are heard, the services they receive are good value and that the Council is standing up for the residents of Kent on those areas which matter most to them.

2. *Reforming Kent, 2025-2028*

- 2.1 The document is not intended as an exhaustive list of everything the Council does but is focused on establishing a reformed council, the ambitions we want to meet and the objectives and priorities that will be delivered.
- 2.2 The Strategy is focused on 4 aims that are structured around the areas of greatest challenge and opportunity and each of these are supported by a number of objectives and priorities.

The four aims are:

- Putting Kent Residents First

- Reforming Kent County Council
- Supporting Residents that need help
- Building Better Communities

For each of the objectives the document sets out the local context, why this matters to Kent, whilst outlining the priorities the Council will address.

3. Next Steps and timeline

- 3.1 Following County Council, amendments will be made to the document, and further drafting will take place to reflect wider engagement. The draft will also be placed on the KCC website and be promoted for comments.
- 3.2 The final strategy will be brought back to County Council for approval on November 6th and following this there will need to be a review of other Council strategies and policies to ensure they align. Any changes to these will be taken through the usual governance routes.
- 3.3 The final strategy will set out how we will measure success against the aims and objectives. This will need to include a review of the Quarterly Performance Report and the Council's Business plan to ensure they align to the strategy.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1. County Council is asked to :

(1) **Comment on** the draft Council Strategy, Reforming Kent 2025-2028.

5. Relevant Director:

David Whittle, Director of Strategy, Policy, Relationships and Corporate Assurance – david.whittle@kent.gov.uk

6. Background Documents

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Reforming Kent, 2025-2028