

By: Peter Sass - Head of Democratic Services and Local Leadership

To: Cabinet Scrutiny Committee – 15 September 2010

Subject: Follow up items and Decisions from Cabinet Scrutiny Committee –  
21 July 2010

Classification: Unrestricted

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Summary: This report sets out the decisions from the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee and items which the Committee has raised previously for follow up

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### **Introduction**

1. This is a rolling schedule of information requested previously by the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee.
2. If the information supplied is satisfactory it will be removed following the meeting, but if the Committee should find the information to be unsatisfactory it will remain on the schedule with a request for further information.
3. The decisions from the meeting of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee on 21 July 2010 are set out in the table below along with the response of the relevant Cabinet Member.

### **Recommendation**

4. That Cabinet agree responses to these decisions, which will be reported back to the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee.

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Background Information: *Nil*



| Title                                      | Purpose of Consideration                | Guests   | Decisions / Follow up Items   | Cabinet Member Response / Officer Response   |
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| <b>Highways Business Plan IMG 10.12.08</b> | To scrutinise the Highways Service Plan | Cabinet Member during 2008 – Mr Ferrin<br>Managing Director – Mike Austerberry | Highways Business Plan IMG 02.12.08<br>- A list of gully schedules be supplied to all Members after the elections | 21.07.10 – The gully emptying schedules would be issued to Members in the next few weeks.  |
| <b>Kent Design Guide 09.12.09</b>          |   | Mr N Chard<br>Mr M Austerberry<br>Mrs B Cooper<br>Mr B White                   | Kent Design Guide<br><br>Interim Guidance Note 3: Residential Parking   | <p>A report was presented to Environment Highways and Waste Policy and Overview Committee on this issue at its meeting on 29 July 2010.</p> <p>The following recommendations were agreed</p> <p>a) Endorse the testing of the robustness of IGN3 described in Section 4 and receive a report on the outcomes when they are available.<br/>           b) Acknowledge the concerns of the Kent Developers' Group, and the work that is being undertaken to address these concerns, and encourage further dialogue at appropriate levels to understand the actual implications of and opportunities presented by IGN3, and its interpretation at local level.<br/>           c) Note that public consultation on Ashford Borough Council's draft Residential Parking SPD offers developers and designers an opportunity to make further representations on the implications of 'IGN3 based guidance', having regard for the need to address the problems of</p> |

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|   |  |  |   | <p>some past approaches.</p> <p>d) Acknowledge the widespread concern among residents concerning parking in recent residential developments, and the social and cost implications arising from the problems caused, and welcome collaborative working approaches that are seeking to avoid replication of these problems in future developments.</p>   |
| <p><b>Learning and Skills Council Service</b><br/>10.02.10</p>  |  | <p>Mr Simmonds<br/>Ms McMullan</p>                             | <p>Mr Horne asked that when it became known, Members be informed of the level of funding package which the Government was offering to Kent County Council in relation to the transfer of the Learning and Skills Council Service.</p>   | <p>Information on the Learning and Skills Council Service was circulated to all Members of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee on 8 September 2010.</p>   |
| <p><b>Integrated Transport Schemes</b><br/>21.07.10</p> <p>(formed part of the Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Exception Report )</p> |  | <p>Mr N Chard<br/>Mr J Burr<br/>Mr D Hall<br/>Mr R Hallett</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Thank Mr Chard, Mr Burr, Mr D Hall and Mr R Hallett for attending the meeting and answering Members' questions,</li> <li>2. Welcome the assurance that the Community Liaison Officers would liaise with elected Members to ensure that Members are aware that unspent Member's Highways fund could be used to reinstate some of the smaller schemes that had been deleted from the Integrated Transport programme</li> <li>3. Request further information relating to packages of Integrated Transport Schemes to enable clear understanding of the detail of any changes to the schemes,</li> <li>4. Ask that in future the spreadsheet of schemes includes the comments of those that have responded,</li> <li>5. Thank the Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste for his</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. –</li> <li>2. The Community Liaison officers have all been given an up to date list of sums remaining in the member's highway fund. They have been tasked with contacting each member to suggest productive ways that this money could be spent if the member so wishes. Schemes not funded to be broken down to see if Member Highway Fund can be used to reinstate important local elements if whole scheme cannot be afforded.</li> <li>3. (This relates to the point above)</li> <li>4. Agreed and duly noted</li> <li>5. –</li> </ol> |

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|  |  |                                 | <p>offer to advise Members of any changes to the prioritisation scheme,</p> <p>6. Raise concerns about the unequal treatment of the Joint Transportation Boards across Kent because of the narrow consultation period.</p>  | <p>6. Every effort was made to consult with the JTBs, but due to the very short timeline only a few coincided with the deadline.</p>  |
| <p><b>Operation Find and Fix</b><br/><b>21.07.10</b></p> |  | <p>Mr N Chard<br/>Mr J Burr</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Thank Mr Chard and Mr Burr for attending the meeting and answering Members' questions,</li> <li>2. Congratulate officers and the Cabinet Member on the additional £1.5million for find and fix identified through the procurement process,</li> <li>3. Welcome the increase in surface dressing to prolong the life of existing roads</li> <li>4. Welcome the offer of the Director of Kent Highway Services to provide a basic guide for Members demonstrating how the Council assesses the quality of roads and ensures that the quality improves,</li> <li>5. Ask for an estimate of the spending required to slow down the backlog and improve the condition of the roads,</li> <li>6. Welcome the assurance of the Cabinet Member for Environment Highways and Waste that he would again investigate whether European funding was available to help with the repair and maintenance of Kent's roads,</li> <li>7. Ask that the DART-Tag be advertised as a time and cost effective scheme attached to the Dartford tunnel.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. –</li> <li>2. –</li> <li>3. Duly noted</li> <li>4. This is currently being produced and should be available for distribution at the EH&amp;W members session on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2010.</li> <li>5. It is calculated through the highway asset management system that an annual maintenance budget of £94m is required to clear the backlog over a 10 year period.</li> <li>6. All opportunities will be explored</li> <li>7. Investigations are ongoing as to the most appropriate form of communication.</li> </ol> |

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| <p><b>Increasing the Number of Communities Receiving Warden Services<br/>21.07.10</b></p> |  | <p>Mr M Hill<br/>Mr S Beaumont</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Thank Mr Hill and Mr Beaumont for attending the meeting and answering Members' questions</li> <li>2. Request that any redeployment or service change to the Community Wardens be part of a formal Cabinet Member decision</li> <li>3. Welcome the assurance given that there would be consultation with local Members and Parish and Town Council Members during the review process before any redeployment or service change is made,</li> <li>4. Welcome the invitation for Members to request the deployment of a Community Warden to urban areas, subject to police advice,</li> <li>5. Request that the Communities Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee monitor the progress of the Community Warden Service following the redeployment of the wardens.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. –</li> <li>2. Policy decisions regarding changes to the wardens service will be in consultation with local Members and the communities served but <b>deployment</b> of individual wardens is an operational matter and will not be a formal Cabinet member decision.</li> <li>3. Agreed</li> <li>4. –</li> <li>5. Arrangements will be made for the Communities Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee to monitor the progress of the Community Warden Service following the redeployment of the wardens.</li> </ol> |
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