

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY:

Jamie Henderson, Cabinet Member for Environment, Coastal Regeneration & Public Health

DECISION NUMBER:

26/00007

Executive Decision – key**26/00007 – Heritage Conservation Strategy**

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Environment, Coastal Regeneration & Public Health, I agree to:

ADOPT proposed amendments to the Heritage Conservation Strategy.

DELEGATE authority to the Corporate Director for Growth, Environment and Transport or other officer as required by the Corporate Director to review the Strategy on an annual basis and revise the strategy where changes do not require additional governance.

DELEGATE authority to the Corporate Director Growth, Environment and Transport, in consultation with the Cabinet Member Coastal Regeneration, Environment and Special Projects, to take the actions required to support the implementation of the strategy.

Reasons for decision:

The Heritage Conservation Strategy is being updated mainly to implement an Executive Decision requiring Kent County Council to divest its windmills as sustainable community assets, reduce long-term costs, and comply with new legal requirements. The update also ensures the strategy remains aligned with current priorities and legal obligations.

Financial implications:

The cost of updating the strategy is limited to staff time and minor redesign of the final document.

There would be a Revenue Contribution to Capital Outlay saving of up to £150k pa (plus service/Corporate Landlord costs of approximately £23k pa) once all assets are divested and once all arrangements are finalised.

Legal implications:

None at this stage to update the Strategy.

Equalities implications:

Depending on the nature of the divestment methods chosen, older people could be disproportionately impacted upon.

The revised strategy and information on divestment will be disseminated in accessible formats in order to ensure that people of all groups can learn about the future process of divestment and participate in any opportunities offered.

Data Protection implications:

None

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The proposed decision will be considered by the Growth, Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee on 10 March 2026

The Cabinet Committee recommended that ***“at the start of objective eight on page 205 that it reads, the council commits to setting up a Kent Windmills Trust to coordinate the future management of Kent's windmills and to support current and future volunteer groups intending to own or manage Kent windmills”***

The Cabinet Member noted the recommendation made by the Cabinet Committee, however, feels that it goes beyond what the accompanying decision is actually doing, which is:

- Adopting proposed amendments to the Heritage Conservation Strategy, and
- Delegating authority to enable implementation and routine updating of that strategy.

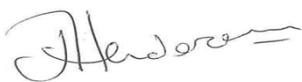
Any alternatives considered and rejected:

Not updating the Heritage Conservation Strategy was considered but rejected due to strong support from members and senior management and the need to align with the Executive Decision

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

None

01/04/2026



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Signed

Date

