From:	Joel Cook, Head of Democratic Services
To:	Growth, Environment & Transport Cabinet Committee – 10 November 2026
Subject:	**Petition Scheme Debate – KCC to Review and Improve their response to 5th September Dover protest**
Classification:	Unrestricted
Summary:	Details of a petition received which has reached the required signature threshold for debate at the Cabinet Committee, in accordance with the County Council's petition scheme.

For Decision

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1. Introduction

1.1. In accordance with the Petition Scheme set out at sections 14.36-14.41 of the Constitution, any petition on a County Council matter which has between 1,500 and 4,999 signatures will trigger a debate at the appropriate Cabinet Committee.

1.2. The process for the debate on each petition is that the lead petitioner will be given 5 minutes to present the petition at the meeting. There will then be a debate of up to 45 minutes before the Cabinet Member is invited to respond for a maximum of 5 minutes. As the subject matter of this petition relates to a matter which is the responsibility of the Council's Executive, the Cabinet Committee can decide whether to make a recommendation to the relevant Cabinet Member to inform the decision-making process.

2. Petition – Kent County Council (KCC) to Review and Improve their response to 5th September Dover protest

2.1. A petition was received which requested that KCC to review and improve their response to 5th September Dover protest. The change.org petition can be viewed online here. The full wording of the petition is as follows:

KCC Work with Community Safety and resilience partners, including Kent Police, to review and improve the collective strategic response to significant unauthorised protest activity where they pose significant disruption risks. In particular, we urge KCC to:

a) Review the Highways and Community Safety response to the 5 September 2026 protests.

b) Work as part of the Kent & Medway Resilience Forum, alongside key partners such as Kent Police, to ensure joint response and

communication strategies are in place to quickly and effectively respond to large scale disruptive protests.

This petition had a total of 2,100 signatures, thus triggering a debate at the Growth, Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee.

2.2. A statement from the lead petitioner, Mr Rob Yates, is attached at Appendix 1. Mr Rob Yates has confirmed that he would be attending the meeting to address the committee about the petition.

2.3. A position statement prepared by the Cabinet Member for Communities and regulatory service and the Corporate Director of Growth, Environment and Transport is attached at Appendix 2.

Recommendation:

The Growth, Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee is invited to debate the issues raised in the petition and to determine a response.

Appendices:
Appendix 1 – Statement from the Lead Petitioner
Appendix 2 – Position Statement from the Directorate

Background Documents
Constitution of Kent County Council

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