

By: Head of Democratic Services and Local Leadership

To: Cabinet Scrutiny Committee – 23 July 2008

Subject: Response from Cabinet to the decisions from Cabinet Scrutiny Committee on 21 May 2008

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This report sets out the response from the Cabinet meeting on 16 June to decisions from the last Cabinet Scrutiny Committee meeting on 21 May 2008.

Introduction

1. It was reported at the meeting of this Committee on 23 April 2008 that the Leader had agreed that the decisions from Cabinet Scrutiny Committee would be reported to the following meeting of the Cabinet for a response.
2. The decisions from the meeting of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee on 21 May 2008 were reported to the Cabinet meeting on 16 June 2008 and the response from Cabinet is set out in the table attached as an Appendix to this report.

Recommendation

3. That responses from Cabinet to the decision made at the meeting of Cabinet Scrutiny Committee on 21 May be noted.

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Background Information: *Nil*

Title	Purpose of Consideration	Decisions	
Wingfield Bank, Northfleet – declaration of land surplus to highways requirements	<p>To question the Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste, the Director and Kent Highways Services, the Regeneration and Project Manager and the Director of Property in relation to the way in which this transaction has been handled</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee supports the decision of the Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste, that the land at Wingfield Bank, Northfleet, should be declared surplus to highways requirements. 2. The Chairman of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee will write to the Cabinet Member for Finance, Mr N J C Chard, enclosing a copy of the petition presented to him by Mr Colin Meredith of the Northfleet Action Group, and asking Mr Chard to advise the petitioners what the process will be now in terms of the disposal of this land, including the proposed consultation process. 	<p>The Cabinet noted the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee's endorsement of the Cabinet Member's decision to declare the land surplus to highways requirements.</p> <p>The Cabinet noted that Mr Chard had met with the local Member, Mr Parker, and officers and now that the consultation period had started he had offered to meet on site with local people including the local Member.</p>
Kent Concessionary Travel Scheme for the over 60's and people with disabilities	<p>To explore the reasons for the Cabinet's decision in this matter and, in particular, certain alleged inaccuracies in the report and whether the decision was made with the benefit of prior consultation with District and Borough Councils</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Cabinet's initiative to allow pass holders to travel free between 9:00 am and 9:30 am be welcomed. 2. That the Committee expresses regret that the decision was made without the benefit of prior consultation with District and Borough Councils. 	<p>The Cabinet noted the decisions of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee and that negotiations and discussions with the District and Borough Leaders and Chief Executives were ongoing with a view to achieving a successful outcome for all concerned.</p>

Title	Purpose of Consideration	Decisions	
		<p>3. That the Committee would support active consultation commencing as soon as possible with District and Borough Council Leaders with regard to the proposed implementation of the Cabinet's decision.</p> <p>4. That the Committee agrees to reconsider the matter when any significant changes are proposed to the national scheme.</p>	
<p>Joint Working Arrangements with Canterbury City Council, Dover District Council, Shepway District Council and Thanet District Council</p>	<p>To question the Leader of the Council and the Director of Law and Governance about how these proposals related to the County Council's proposals for enhanced two-tier working and how the arrangements will work in practice, in relation to other decision-making and deliberative structures, e.g. local boards and/or neighbourhood forums, the LSP, JTB's etc.</p>	<p>1. That the Committee notes the current position and asks the Leader to keep this Committee updated with regard to the development of the Joint Working arrangements in the four East Kent District Councils.</p>	<p>The Cabinet noted the decision of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee and confirmed that an update on the Joint Working Arrangements with the four East Kent District Councils will be reported to the Corporate Policy Overview Committee at the end of the first year of operation and at appropriate intervals thereafter.</p>