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To: Corporate Policy Overview and
Scrutiny Committee – 6 July 2011

Subject: KCC International Activities
Annual Report 2010 – 11

Classification: Unrestricted

Introduction

- 1.1 This Sixth KCC International Activities Annual Report provides an overview for Members of the range of international work undertaken across the authority and county over the past year. This also reflects the commitment contained within Kent County Council's International Strategy to keep Members fully informed about international work in Kent.
- 1.2 The Report highlights in particular how this work has contributed to the achievement of the priorities of KCC's Medium Plan to 2014/15, 'Bold Steps for Kent.' As in previous years, a major success has been the continued securing of significant EU-funded projects, including the greatest amount of Interreg cross-border funding of all eligible county or unitary areas.
- 1.3 However the Report focuses not only on the role of EU funding in supporting Bold Steps' priority for economic growth and prosperity in the county, but also the importance of international partnership and best-practice collaboration to improve local performance and promote innovation.
- 1.4 Bold Steps also, however, recognises the importance of access to a range of activities that allow residents to enjoy life. The Report outlines the ways in which an international dimension is contributing to quality of life and improved outcomes for Kent residents, ranging from the 2012 Olympics and Open Golf to youth and school exchanges.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note and comment on the content of this Report and its annexes.

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