

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL - RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY

Bryan Sweetland, Cabinet Member – Environment, Highways & Waste

DECISION NO.

12/01934

If decision is likely to disclose exempt information please specify the relevant paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

Subject: Managing Events on the Highway

Decision: Following recommendations from the Environment, Highways & Waste Cabinet Committee on 4 July 2012 I agree:(a) to send a formal request to Kent Police to review their change in policy and continue to provide traffic control support for events in the County; (b) that policy option 1 (described below) is adopted; and (c) that this policy is reported to the next round of JTBs for information.

Any Interest Declared when the Decision was Taken - None

Reason(s) for decision, including alternatives considered and any additional information

Background Documents:

To agree policy for Kent County Council's involvement in the management of events on the highway, following the Police's recent withdrawal of support for the management of traffic. The following 3 Options for future County-wide policy have been considered:

Option 1 KCC maintain the current situation where we act in an advisory role for the event organiser, only advising on suitability of measures to minimise traffic impact and reduce safety risk. This will not provide the event organisers with any funding support but publishing the policy will manage expectations and help avoid KCC being criticised for the impact of the Police's change in policy.

Option 2 As option 1 but KCC to contribute towards a signing equipment stock for District Councils to manage and distribute as required for events in their areas. This assumed that in accordance with localism principles District Councils would be best placed to promote and manage local events to support the diversity and the culture of their areas. A one-off grant to every District Council to acquire signs and cones would equate to a total estimated cost of £10,000 to be found from existing budgets. However, this would require District Councils to sign up to the proposal following development and consultation with them.

Option 3 KCC fully support all non-profit making (charitable) events with assistance on design of traffic management plans and provision of necessary signage across the County. This would require additional funding and resource from KCC - e.g. sign costs, storage, maintenance/replacement, staff resource (estimated 2 FTEs) and transport. A full assessment would be required to determine the amount of signs required to enable this to be carried out Countywide. However, the total estimated annual cost to KCC was likely to be in excess of £100,000, a considerable new budget pressure which would inevitably mean a reduction in service levels elsewhere.

Environment, Highways & Waste Cabinet Committee on 4 July 2012 RESOLVED that:

- (a) a formal request to Kent Police to review their change in policy and continue to provide traffic control support for events be supported;
- (b) policy option 1 above be recommended to the Cabinet Member; and
- (c) the report and draft minute be circulated to the next round of JTBs for information.

signed



date:

18 July 2012

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Decision Referred to Cabinet Scrutiny			
YES		NO	

Cabinet Scrutiny Decision to Refer Back for Reconsideration			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration Record Sheet Issued			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration of Decision Published			