

**REPORT TO: CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 21 MARCH 2007**  
**BY: ASSISTANT TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**CABINET SCRUTINY AND POLICY OVERVIEW**  
**Standing Report to March 2007**

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**Summary**

1. The report summarises in Table 1 outcomes of the most recent Cabinet Scrutiny Committee (CSC) meeting held on 20 February 2007. Cabinet Members and Chief Officers were provided with a copy of the action sheet and asked to respond as appropriate. The report includes any subsequent responses and actions by Cabinet Members and Senior Officers up to and including the meeting of Cabinet held on 12 March 2007.
2. Additionally, in Table 2 the report provides an updated report on the current programme for Select Committee Topic Reviews. This programme was originally agreed at Policy Overview Co-ordinating Committee on 15 February 2007.

**Recommendations**

3. Members are asked to note:
    - (i) progress on actions and outcomes from the meeting of Cabinet Scrutiny Committee held on 20 February 2007 as set out in Table 1;
    - (ii) the current position on Select Committee Topic Reviews.
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**ACTIONS FOR CABINET AND DIRECTORATES FROM CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 20 February 2007**

Item/Issue	Actions and Outcomes from Cabinet Scrutiny Committee
<p><b>A2 Minutes of Cabinet Scrutiny Committee 24 January, 2 February and 7 February 2007.</b></p>	<p>(a) Dr Eddy asked how any change in the cost of Turner Contemporary would be reported to Members. {Minute 53(4)(d)} <b>Action: Ms L McMullan</b></p> <p>(b) Minutes were agreed.</p>
<p><b>A3 IMG on “Kent-What price Growth?” 22 January 2007</b></p>	<p>(a) Noted and recommendations agreed.</p> <p>(b) Regeneration and Economy Team to be asked to advise Kent Police Authority and Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority of KCC’s publication of the Developer’s Guide and to invite them to adopt a similar approach to Developer Contributions. <b>Action: Nigel Smith</b></p>
<p><b>A4 IMG on Budgetary Issues 2 February 2007</b></p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p><b>A5 Cabinet Scrutiny Committee: Actions and Outcomes to February 2007</b></p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p><b>C1 Free Travel for 11-16 Year-Olds</b></p>	<p>Mr KA Ferrin and Mr D Hall attended and were thanked for answering Members’ questions.</p> <p>Cabinet Scrutiny Committee recommended that the Decision can now be implemented, and also concluded as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways, and Waste be recommended to change the title of the scheme to <b>Assisted Travel for 11-16 Year Olds. (Action: Mr Ferrin/Mr Hall)</b></li> <li>(ii) The Cabinet Member be urged to determine a means of measuring congestion without delay, so that the success or otherwise of the scheme in terms of reducing congestion can be judged; <b>(Action: Mr Ferrin/Mr Hall)</b></li> <li>(iii) The Managing Director, Children, Families and Education be advised of of the possible impact of the scheme on secondary school admissions; <b>(Action: Mr Ian Craig)</b></li> </ul>

**ACTIONS FOR CABINET AND DIRECTORATES FROM CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 20 February 2007**

Item/Issue	Actions and Outcomes from Cabinet Scrutiny Committee
	<p>(iv) The Managing Director, Children Families and Education be recommended to make clear in all information to parents about secondary school admissions for September 2007 that, in making their choice of school, parents should not rely on the assisted travel scheme continuing beyond the two-year pilot period; <b>(Action: Ian Craig)</b></p> <p>(v) The Cabinet Member's agreement to provide Members of the Committee, in confidence, with detailed costings for the pilot scheme be welcomed; <b>(Action: David Hall)</b></p> <p>(vi) The Cabinet Member's agreement to provide Members of the Committee with half-yearly reports on costs and take-up of the scheme be welcomed. <b>(Action: David Hall)</b></p>
<p><b>C2 Lorry Parking Issues</b></p>	<p>Mr R Gough, Mr K A Ferrin and Mr P Raine attended for this item and were thanked for answering Members' questions. The Committee agreed that the Decision can now be implemented and concluded as follows:</p> <p>(i) the Cabinet Members be recommended to:</p> <p><b>(a)</b> obtain information about the actions taken by the French authorities to deal with the effects of disruption to cross-Channel transport services to see whether any lessons can be learned; <b>(Action: Mick Sutch)</b></p> <p><b>(b)</b> actively and urgently seek EU funding towards the costs of providing an emergency lorry parking site to replace Operation Stack ;<b>(Action: Mick Sutch)</b></p> <p><b>(c)</b> urgently investigate the planning issues relating to provision of an emergency lorry parking site to replace Operation Stack. <b>(Action: Mick Sutch)</b></p>

**ACTIONS FOR CABINET AND DIRECTORATES FROM CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 20 February 2007**

Item/Issue	Actions and Outcomes from Cabinet Scrutiny Committee
	<p>(ii) the Managing Director (E and R) be asked to provide Members of the Committee with further information about the issue of the Police not always separating out flows of lorries heading for different ports and the Channel Tunnel quickly enough, particularly as it seemed that 80% of lorries had transferable bookings, and what action was being taken to try to overcome this problem. <b>(Action: Mick Sutch)</b></p>
<p><b>E1 The Kent Commitment</b></p>	<p>Mr P Carter (Leader) and Mr P Gilroy (Chief Executive) attended for this item and were thanked for answering Members' questions.</p> <p>Members of the Committee concluded as follows:</p> <p>(i) the agreement of Mr Carter to publish a bi-monthly update on progress with the Kent Commitment to all Members be welcomed <b>Action: Mr P Carter</b></p> <p>(ii) the Chief Executive's agreement to provide the following information be welcomed:</p> <p>(a) details of the services which KCC provides to other councils;</p> <p>(b) details of the Kent Commitment work streams being worked on by Kent Chief Executives. <b>Action: Peter Gilroy</b></p>

Table 2

**Select Committee Topic Reviews:  
Programme following Policy Overview Co-ordinating Committee 15 February  
2007\* (\*Subject to confirmation of Minutes by Chairman and Spokespersons)**

<b>Policy Overview Committee/ Topic Review/Chair</b>	<b>Current Topic Review status and other topics (in no particular order*) agreed for the period February 2007 to July 2008</b>
<p><b>Children Families and Education :</b></p> <p>PSHE-Children's Health: <b>Chair Ms CJ CRIBBON</b></p> <p>Developing the Creative Curriculum</p> <p>Primary School Attainment</p> <p>Young People's Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development</p>	<p>Inaugural meeting of the Select Committee was held on 5 October. Hearings and visits were held during November. <b>It is anticipated that the Select Committee report will be submitted to Cabinet in April 2007. (Research Officer: Gaetano Romagnuolo)</b></p> <p>Dates to be agreed*</p> <p><b>POCC agreed that this issue was being dealt with through a cross-party mechanism. It was therefore removed at the request of CFE POC.</b></p> <p>Dates to be agreed*</p>
<p><b>Communities</b></p> <p>Accessing Democracy</p> <p>Student Voice –Consultation and Participation with Young People</p> <p>Provision of Activities for Young People</p>	<p>Dates to be agreed* <b>Preliminary discussions are being held to assess how this work will compliment the work of the "Going Local" Informal Member Group.</b></p> <p>Dates to be agreed.*</p> <p>Dates to be agreed.*</p>

<p><b>Policy Overview Committee/</b> Topic Review/Chair</p>	<p><b>Current Topic Review status and other topics (in no particular order*) agreed for the period February 2007 to July 2008</b></p>
<p><b>Communities/Public Health</b> (to be agreed) <b>Alcohol and Related Issues</b></p>	<p><b>To start in Spring 2007.</b></p>
<p><b>Adult Services</b>  Carers in Kent  Transition from Childhood to Adulthood: <b>MR A BOWLES</b></p>	<p><b>Dates confirmed as Spring to Autumn 2007.</b>  Inaugural meeting of the Select Committee was held on 9 October 2006; hearing sessions commenced on 26 October and are due to end on 20 December 2006. It is anticipated that the Select Committee report will be submitted to Cabinet in May 2007. (Research Officer: Susan Frampton).</p>
<p><b>Environment and Regeneration</b>  Impact of Supermarkets, Out of Town Shopping Malls and Retail Parks on Businesses in Kent</p>	<p>Dates to be agreed.*</p>

*jhw/sc 6 March 2007*

*\* To be discussed at the meeting of the POCC in June and September 2007*