

## KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

**DECISION TO BETAKEN BY:**

**Matthew Balfour, Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport**

**DECISION NO:**

16/00115

**For publication**

**Key decision: YES**

**Title**  
Approval to re-procure and delegate to the Director of Highways, Transport and Waste to award a contract/s for Soft Landscape Rural Swathe and Visibility Cutting

**Decision:**

As Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport, I agree to the re-procurement and delegation to the Director of Highways, Transport and Waste the award of contracts for Rural Swathe and Visibility Cutting services.

**Governance:**

The Executive Scheme of Delegation for Officers set out in Appendix 2 Part 4 of the Constitution (and the directorate schemes of sub-delegation made thereunder) provides the governance pathway for the implementation of this decision by officers as it assumes at 1.9 of the scheme that once a Member-level decision has been taken, the implementation of that decision will normally be delegated to officers, so that multiple Member decisions are not required in respect of the same matter.

In this instance, the Director of Highways, Transport and Waste will be the lead officer seeking to ensure that all such steps as are necessary to implement the decision are undertaken.

**Reason(s) for decision:**

Continuation of existing safety critical services – rural swathe and visibility cutting

**Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:**

In December 2015, a Member Task & Finish Group was set up to consider and make recommendations for the future commissioning options and funding for the Soft Landscaping Service. A progress report was taken to the Environment & Transport Cabinet Committee in March 2016 outlining the options being considered. These discussions shaped a Commissioning Plan for the Swathe and Visibility Contract which was reported to Strategic Commissioning Board in July.

The proposal was also considered by Members of the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee at its meeting on 17 November where Members agreed to endorse the decision

**Any alternatives considered and rejected:**

KCC has a statutory requirement to maintain safe highways. The Swathe and Visibility Contract is considered to fall within this requirement.

**Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:**

None

M Balfour

Signed

Name: MATTHEW BALFOUR

23<sup>rd</sup> November 2016

date