

By: Head of Democratic Services and Local Leadership

To: Cabinet Scrutiny Committee – 21 May 2008

Subject: Response from Cabinet to the decisions from Cabinet Scrutiny Committee on 23 April 2008

Classification: Unrestricted

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Summary: This report sets out the response from the Cabinet meeting on 12 May to decisions from the last Cabinet Scrutiny Committee meeting on 23 April 2008.

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## Introduction

1. It was reported at the last meeting of this Committee 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 23 April 2008 were reported to the Cabinet meeting on 12 May 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 23 April be noted.

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Background Information: *Nil*

## Cabinet Scrutiny Committee – 23 April 2008

Title	Purpose of Consideration	Decisions	Response from Cabinet 12 May 2008
<b>Annual Unit Business Plans</b>	To agree which Unit Business Plans will be considered in further detail later in the year, at an Informal Member Group	<p>The following Unit Business Plans were selected for detailed scrutiny later in the year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kent Highways Services</li> <li>• Children’s Services (Clusters)</li> <li>• Communications and Media Centre</li> <li>• Direct payments (part of Adult Social Services)</li> </ul>	The Cabinet noted this decision.
<b>Proposed Disposal of land fronting the A20 in Allington</b>	To explore in further detail the background to this proposal by the County Council, particularly in view of the concerns that had been expressed to the Committee from the trustees of the Allington Baptist Church, via local Members.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr Chard, Mrs Walker and Mr Wilkinson be thanked for attending the meeting to answer Members’ questions</li> <li>2. We welcome the comments from Mr Chard that the proposed development scheme for the site at Leafy Lane will only work in there is a successful and mutually acceptable solution to both KCC and the Allington Baptist Church in relation to the relocation of their premises</li> <li>3. We welcome the commitment and willingness of both parties to continue to work together to find a suitable alternative location for the Allington Baptist Church; in particular, we are pleased to note Mr Chard’s commitment to become more involved personally to resolve the various issues.</li> <li>4. We note that, should outline planning permission be granted to KCC for the site at Leafy Lane, there will be a requirement upon KCC to facilitate the relocation of the Allington Baptist Church to new premises before their existing premises are closed.</li> </ol>	Mr Chard said that he had met with Mr Wilkinson, a representative of the Baptist Church, and discussions were ongoing with the intention of working towards a satisfactory resolution.

Title	Purpose of Consideration	Decisions	Response from Cabinet 12 May 2008
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. We particularly welcome the commitment given by KCC to provide the Allington Baptist Church with a freehold site, which would not be smaller and could be larger than their existing site.</li> <li>6. We would support the carrying out of two surveys; one by the Allington Baptist Church to assess existing usage in terms of attendance at various services/ clubs/activities etc. and the distances that individuals travel to attend the church; secondly, one to be carried out by KCC to assess potential usage of the church and its existing services by people living near to the proposed alternative site off Bower Mount Road.</li> </ol>	
<p><b>Proposed Outsourcing of delivery services beyond the boundaries of Kent</b></p>	<p>To examine the process that has led to the proposed outsourcing of delivery services beyond the boundaries of Kent.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No comment be made on the specific decision relating to the outsourcing of delivery services beyond the boundaries of Kent.</li> <li>2. The Corporate Policy Overview Committee and the Informal Member Group on budgetary issues be asked to monitor the activities of Commercial Services in relation to the objectives and targets contained within their business plan, together with issues relating to customer satisfaction and value for money.</li> <li>3. The Director of Commercial Services be commended for achieving increased income for the Council, helping keep the cost of Council Tax down.</li> </ol>	<p>Mr Chard said that he was very pleased with the comments made by the Scrutiny Committee in commending the Director of Commercial Services for achieving increased income for the Council, helping keep the cost of Council Tax down.</p>