

**From:** Mark Dance, Cabinet Member for Economic Development  
Barbara Cooper, Corporate Director, Growth, Environment and Transport Directorate

**To:** Growth, Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee  
7 March 2018

**Subject:** Members' Recent Visit to Dartford Borough

**Classification:** Unrestricted

**Past Pathway of Paper:** None

**Future Pathway of Paper:** None

**Electoral Division:** All

**Summary:** This report is in two parts. Firstly, it summarises the outcomes of the recent visit by KCC Members to Dartford Borough. The second part of the report outlines the programme of further visits to other Kent districts during 2018 and 2019.

**Recommendation:** The Cabinet Committee is asked to receive and endorse the report.

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 At the November 2017 meeting of this Cabinet Committee, Members agreed that officers be tasked with arranging a programme of informal visits to each of the Kent districts. The objective of the district visits programme is to provide an opportunity for Cabinet Committee Members to gain an understanding of the economic development and regeneration opportunities and challenges within each of the Kent districts.
- 1.2 At the last meeting of this Cabinet Committee on 1<sup>st</sup> February, Members approved further visits to districts.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to summarise the main outcomes of Members' recent visit to Dartford Borough on 9 February and the programme of district visits during 2018 and 2019.

## 2. Outcome of the Visit to Dartford Borough

- 2.1 The visit to Dartford Borough on 9 February was arranged with the full support of officers and Members of Dartford Borough Council, who also attended to provide details about the economic development and regeneration opportunities and challenges for their district. The key points from the visit are described in Appendix 1 to this report:
  - Northern Gateway Development
  - Bob Dunn Way
  - The Bridge Development
  - M25 Junction 1A
  - Crossways

- St Clements Roundabout transport scheme and St Clements Lakes housing.
- Bluewater
- A2 Bean Junction
- Stone
- Dartford Town Centre

### 3. Programme of Further Visits

- 3.1 Further Member visits to Kent districts are being arranged for the next 12 to 18 months, in collaboration with district and borough officers and Members. The format for each visit will be similar to that for Swale and Dartford, involving a day-long tour of the principal economic development and infrastructure developments within each district. An information pack and location map will be provided to each Member.
- 3.2 The third visit, to Dover District Council is planned for 19 April 2018. The itinerary has yet to be finalised with district council colleagues, but it is anticipated Dover town centre, transport and housing schemes within the town will be the main feature.
- 3.3 The fourth visit, to Ashford Borough Council, is being arranged for June. Currently it is planned to visit to Thanet and Gravesham in the autumn.
- 3.4 Due to the scale and complexity of proposed development, a separate visit to the Ebbsfleet Garden City will be arranged for Members as part of the overall programme.

### 4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The cost of coach hire is expected to be £350 per visit.

### 5. Recommendation

**Recommendation:** The Cabinet Committee is asked to receive and endorse the report.

### 6. Appendices

Appendix 1: Highlights of the visit to Dartford Borough Council

### 7. Contact details

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