

From: Roger Gough, Leader of the County Council
Michael Payne, Cabinet Member, Highways & Transport
Barbara Cooper- Corporate Director - Growth, Environment and Transport

To: Environment & Transport Cabinet Committee – 15 September 2020

Decision No: N/A – For information only

Subject: **Decisions taken between Cabinet Committee Meetings**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Past Pathway of Paper: Cabinet Member Decision

Future Pathway of Paper: N/A

Electoral Division: County-wide

Summary: The attached decisions were taken between meetings of the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee as they could not be reasonably deferred to the next programmed meeting of the Cabinet Committee for the reasons set out in paragraphs 2.2, 3.2 and 4.3 below.

Recommendation:

The Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee is asked to note that the following decisions have been taken between meetings of the Cabinet Committee in accordance with the process set out in the Council's constitution:

20/00085 – Investment of Getting Building Funding in KCC-delivered projects

20/00074 - Grant for Kent's road network needs to support Transition

20/00092 – Highways Term Maintenance Contract Extension

1. Introduction

1.1 The following decisions have been taken between meetings of the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee, as they could not reasonably be deferred.

2. 20/00085 – Investment of Getting Building Funding in KCC-delivered projects

2.1 The Leader of the Council has taken a decision to accept the Getting Building Funding (GBF) under SELEP terms and conditions to support already approved KCC projects that the SELEP Partnership's Strategic Board prioritised to

receive GBF at its Board meeting on 16 July 2020. SELEP confirmed seven projects within Kent, including three that are being directly delivered by KCC; Digitally Connecting Rural Kent & Medway, Thanet Parkway Railway Station and Javelin Way Development.

- 2.2 Since the publication of the Forthcoming Executive Decision plan, KCC has been informed by Building Digital UK (BDUK) that the extended broadband top-up voucher scheme needed to be announced on 7 September as this was the last date that changes could be made to the scheme to allow sufficient time to build the required broadband connections.
- 2.3 The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of broadband to Kent's residents and businesses to access services and home-working. To not jeopardise the project, the Leader has taken the decision to enable KCC to meet the BDUK announcement date.

3. 20/00074 – Grant for Kent's road network needs to support Transition

- 3.1 The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport has taken a decision to approve the acceptance of Section 31 monies from the Department of Transport (DfT) to procure and manage works to deliver customs checking and freight holding areas and associated infrastructure at sites secured by DfT to support the Government's Transition arrangements.
- 3.2 The site identified by Government is adjacent to J10A, M20. The site has to be delivered in advance of 30 December 2020 to allow time for multi-agency training and testing. Confirmation of the site and offer was only received from Government in Mid-July, however, to meet the deadline, some enabling works needed to start immediately.

4. Decision 20/00092 – Highways Term Maintenance Contact Extension

- 4.1 The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport has taken the decision to award a 20-month contract extension with AMEY to 30 April 2023.
- 4.2 As a Highways Authority, Kent County Council has a legal duty under the 1980 Highways Act to maintain its sections of the highway network.
- 4.3 The current contract with AMEY was due to terminate on 31 August 2021. Work to procure a new contract had started but due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, it was not possible to proceed to a successful procurement and therefore the contract with AMEY was extended to ensure that KCC could meet its legal obligations and secure stability for the forthcoming year including delivery of the winter service.

5. Recommendation(s)

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5. Background Documents

20/00085 – Record of Decision -

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=2393>

20/00074 - Record of Decision -

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=2383>

20/00092 – Record of Decision

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=2384>

6. Contact details

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