

## KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

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### ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT CABINET COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Environment & Transport Cabinet Committee held in the Darent Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Wednesday, 16 September 2015.

PRESENT: Mrs P A V Stockell (Chairman), Mr C R Pearman (Vice-Chairman), Mr M J Angell (Substitute), Mr M Baldock, Mr C W Caller, Mr I S Chittenden, Dr M R Eddy, Mr B E MacDowall, Mr R A Marsh (Substitute), Mr C Simkins, Mrs C J Waters, Mr M E Whybrow and Mr M A Wickham

ALSO PRESENT: Mr M A C Balfour

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs B Cooper (Corporate Director of Growth, Environment and Transport), Mr R Wilkin (Interim Director of Highways, Transformation and Waste), Butler (Intelligent Transport Systems Manager), Mr R Fitzgerald (Performance Manager), M D Beaver (Head of Network Management and Performance), Ms M Gillett (Major Projects Manager), Mrs C Valentine (Highway Manager), Ms B Buntine (Sustainable Drainage Engineer), Ms A Carruthers (Head of Strategic Planning and Policy), Mr M Tant (Flood Risk Manager) and Mr P Lightowler (Head of Public Transport), Mrs L Whitaker (Democratic Services Manager (Executive)) and Mr A Saul (Democratic Services Officer)

#### UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

**105. Apologies and Substitutes**  
*(Item A1)*

The Chairman welcomed those present including those registered to speak as part of the meeting. It was agreed that item C1, Solutions to Operation Stack: Freight Fluidity for the UK's Gateway to Europe, be pulled forward to accommodate the BBC South East camera team who would be in attendance as part of their coverage of the Operation Stack agenda item.

Apologies were received from Mr Hill. Apologies were also received from Mr Bowles and Mr Homewood who were represented by Mr Marsh and Mr Angell.

**106. Declarations of Interest by Members in items on the Agenda**  
*(Item A2)*

No declarations of interest were received.

**107. Minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2015**  
*(Item A3)*

Mr Caller suggested minor corrections to the second resolution at item 96, referred to in the minutes as Section 3. Mr Caller also requested the reason why he withdrew his first recommendation be captured.

It was RESOLVED that the minutes be agreed subject to the requested amendments.

**108. Verbal updates**  
*(Item A4)*

The Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, Mr Balfour, made the following comments and announcements:

- a) Gratitude was expressed for the hard work of Kent County Council officers who had successfully carried out the work at Willington Street despite being delayed by Operation Stack.
- b) An update was given on the Find and Fix pothole campaign. In April 2015 the council identified an additional £2 million to deliver this scheme. Another successful 'Find and Fix' programme had been delivered over the summer months, with only a small number of jobs to be finalised. The works were delivered by local Kent companies who are part of the Amey supply chain for highways maintenance.
- c) Following a review of the Young Person's Travel Pass scheme, the subsidy was reduced for this school year, resulting in an increase in the cost of the pass from £200 to £250 per year. It was emphasised this pass still represented excellent value for money for the home to school journey, and this was reflected in the take-up, which had not substantially reduced. However, the start of the application process was delayed this year, and applications continue to be received. All passes for on-time applications, plus many for late applications, had been delivered to schools for the start of term.
- d) The Discovery Bus ticket was launched in Kent at an event at County Hall on 5 September. Officers from the Public Transport team have brokered the arrangements with operators and with neighbouring local authorities, and this has enabled the scheme, which already existed in East and West Sussex, Surrey and East Hampshire to be rolled out across Kent and Medway. The Discovery tickets offers travel on any bus across the South East region for a cost of £8.50 for an adult or £7.00 for a child. Mr Balfour hoped this would increase the numbers of those visiting Kent.
- e) The North Farm highway improvement scheme in Tunbridge Wells, which aimed to ease the very significant congestion around the North Farm retail area, was programmed to be substantially complete by 24 September, although there would be some minor works to do plus design alterations on the Knights Park roundabout surfacing during late September/early October. An official opening ceremony was being planned with Rt. Hon. Greg Clark MP attending, and invitations would be going out shortly to key stakeholders and businesses. The new Landscaping Contract was due to commence on the 2 November to introduce new planting throughout the scheme area (various grass mixes, trees and low level shrubs).

The following comments were made by the Cabinet Member and officers in response to questions raised by members of the committee:

1. In regards to the changes in bus routes Mr Balfour confirmed that protecting buses for scholars had been ensured. Philip Lightowler, Head of Public Transport, also explained that changes in bus routes addressed the issue of the commercial timetable being insufficient and the demand from Upchurch not being great enough. These changes reflected demand and were designed to make them more reliable. Mr Lightowler also stated there were Kent carriers in the area for vulnerable persons.
2. In response to a concern raised that there had been no mention in the verbal updates of the recent statistics on road fatalities Mr Balfour also stated that Kent County Council would be doing everything in its power to reduce fatalities on the roads.
3. It was also confirmed by Mr Balfour that further discussion on changes to the bus services would be welcomed.
4. Andrew Loosemore, Deputy Director Highways, Transportation and Waste, said pot holes were edge sealed to prevent water ingress and this was part of the specification given to Amey and other sub-contractors. Overbanding pot holes was discretionary and was not done in all cases as it could be a hazard to cyclists and motorcyclists. An email providing further details would be circulated to all members of the committee.
5. In regards to a plea for more funding for road safety Mr Balfour suggested, with the Director's approval, that a report would come to the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee to discuss exactly what they could do.
6. Roger Wilkin, Interim Director of Highways, Transportation and Waste, explained that Kent County Council is part of a much larger picture with many other agencies working to decrease fatalities on our roads.
7. A view was expressed that the take up of the 11-16 young person's pass after 4 years would be of interest to the committee as would information relating to risk assessments and statements from insurance companies for points of accidents. Mr Balfour confirmed the statistics on the take up of the 11-16 young person's pass after 4 years would be provided to all members of the committee.
8. Mr Balfour confirmed that he would report the results of the pilot schemes in Hythe and Tunbridge Wells to a future meeting of the committee. He also confirmed that he would be raise the 'Speed Watch' initiative with Kent Police and the process for the introduction of 20mph.
9. In regards to concerns raised about pot holes on pavements in the Romney Marsh area Mr Balfour said he would investigate the laws relating to pot holes on pavements.

**109. "Give Canterbury its Buses back" - Petition Scheme Debate**  
(Item A5)

The Chairman invited Ms Debbie Barwick, the petition organiser who represents Canterbury Independent Traders Alliance, to address the committee on the above petition. Ms Barwick presented the petition statement, which had been published with the agenda for the meeting, and gave a speech supporting the statement. The petition asked KCC to ensure Stagecoach ran buses through the Westgate Towers or to get a bus provider that will.

The Chairman then invited the committee to debate the petition. During debate the following concerns were raised and views expressed:

- i. Mr Caller explained on behalf of a local Canterbury Councillor that he had been contacted by elderly constituents on this subject including a 95 year old resident of Canterbury who feels he no longer has access to the St Dunstons area without this bus service.
- ii. A view was expressed that the altered bus route favoured the Whitefriars area as opposed to supporting local businesses in the St Dunstons area.
- iii. A view was expressed that Stagecoach had a monopoly over bus services in Canterbury and that Kent County Council should look into tendering for a bus company that would provide the service the petition requests.
- iv. A question was raised in regards to what Kent County Council could do to encourage other bus operators. It was also suggested that members of the committee look at West Sussex County Council's website as a good example of offering alternative bus services.
- v. A question was raised as to whether a different size of bus would be possible to make using Westgate more feasible.

Phil Lightowler, Head of Public Transport, was in attendance and provided the following information:

1. That Stagecoach buses that pass through Westgate Towers would be required to stop while passing through the towers and have the driver exit the vehicle to pull its mirrors in to continue.
2. It was confirmed that Westgate Towers was a Scheduled Listed monument and, as such, damage to the building was a criminal offence. Mr Lightowler stated that Stagecoach had been very firm on their position, continuing to take their buses through Westgate Towers had not passed the appropriate risk assessment. They were unwilling to risk damaging Westgate Towers or to undertake the manoeuvre in passing through.
3. By the end of 2016 all single decker buses would have to be wide enough to enable wheelchair access to be DDA compliant, as set out in law by the UK Government. The same would apply to double decker buses by 2017.

Mr Balfour, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, responded to questions raised and comments made by members by confirming the following:

1. That although he would want more competition, as it stood Kent County Council had no regulatory function over the bus market and was not in a position to break a Stagecoach monopoly in Canterbury.
2. That he would look into improving Kent County Council's webpage on bus services to give more comprehensive information to the public.
3. It was suggested that should the committee wish to reorder the bus network to help particular places they should make recommendations to that effect at the appropriate budget setting meeting.

A recommendation was made by Mr Marsh, and seconded by Mr Baldock, that Kent County Council re-examine the service requirements of the current bus network in Canterbury.

It was RESOLVED that after consideration of the action taken by the petitioners that the recommendation made by Mr Marsh be agreed.

## **110. Winter Services Policy for 2015/16**

*(Item B1)*

Carol Valentine, Highway Manager, introduced the report which asked the committee to endorse or make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, on proposed changes to the Winter Service Policy for 2015/16.

She referred in particular to the following:

- i. The past two years Kent has seen an average winter with no snow days.
- ii. Kent Officers were trialling liquid de-icer and would monitor the results of this trial.
- iii. The current weather forecast service expired in May 2015. A procurement process is being undertaken to find a new supplier. The contract was put to tender on 13 July.
- iv. Ms Valentine emphasised that the Highway Operations winter service team had a good working relationship with Highways England.

Andrew Loosemore, Deputy Director Highways, Transportation and Waste, was also in attendance and stated he was happy with the content of the report and thanked Ms Valentine and the team for all of their hard work on the Winter Service Policy for 2015/2016.

In response to comments made and questions raised by members, Ms Valentine confirmed the following:

- i. The allocated budget had been based on an average winter.
- ii. Roads on new developments that need to be included on the primary network for the purpose of salting runs will be added to the primary route maps once those roads had been formally adopted by the County Council. That parish councils would be contacted early to discuss their areas requirements for salt bags
- iii. That five new vehicles had been acquired for the purpose of salting narrow roads.
- iv. The Winter Service webpage on Kent County Council's website would advise on the Winter Service Policy and a link to this webpage would be provided to Committee members after the meeting.

Mr Balfour, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, clarified that the routes used for salting runs will be looked at regularly and there would be appropriate prioritisation when determining these routes. This would take into account new housing developments.

It was RESOLVED that the changes to the Winter Service Policy for 2015/16 be endorsed.

## **111. Solutions to Operation Stack: Freight Fluidity for the UK's Gateway to Europe**

*(Item C1)*

This item was brought forward for discussion by the Chairman as agreed at the start of the meeting.

Ann Carruthers, Head of Strategic Planning and Policy, introduced the report updating members on progress in finding a solution to Operation Stack. Ms Carruthers provided the following information;

- i. That in 2015 Operation Stack had been in force for a total of 32 days.
- ii. That the European Gateway Strategic Delivery Group had been trying to identify both short term and long term measures.
- iii. The disruption in the June/July period has at least brought Operation Stack to the Government's attention as a national issue, as opposed to a Kentish issue or an East Kent issue.
- iv. It was confirmed that the relevant agencies through the Strategic Co-ordination Group have agreed with Government that, should Stage 2 of Operation Stack be needed, Dover bound HGVs will be diverted to the former Manston Airport site.
- v. It was emphasised the use of the Manston Airport site was only a temporary short term measure.
- vi. Ms Carruthers also brought the committee's attention to paragraph 2.4 which listed the on and off highway measures presented to COBR.
- vii. That Kent County Council would of course continue to work towards a long term solution to Operation Stack.

Mr Balfour, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, also spoke on this item and gave the following information;

- i. That the international impact of Operation Stack was finally being recognised after its severity in 2015. Thanks were given to the media in their role in giving Operation Stack the attention it requires.
- ii. That other lorry parks across the country were still considered the most suitable long term solution to Operation Stack.
- iii. In regards to the use of lorry parks and ticketing Mr Balfour confirmed that he was pushing for the whole question to be taken more seriously.
- iv. That it was critical Kent County Council, the Strategic Co-ordination Group and the European Gateway Strategic Delivery Group keep pushing this item to the top of Kent County Council's and the Government's agenda.
- v. It was emphasised that Mr Balfour was grateful for the round-the-clock work of Kent County Council officers in mitigating issues in East Kent that came about while Operation Stack was in effect.

In response to comments made and questions raised by members during discussion on this item Mr Balfour confirmed the following:

- i. That overnight lorry parking as an issue would be addressed separately.
- ii. That although money had been promised towards a solution to Operation Stack a guarantee of money towards it was still sought after.
- iii. That solutions that can be put into effect as quickly as possible were being sought after.
- iv. That Kent County Council had been assured that use of the Manston Airport site as a temporary solution would cease should it be considered to have made matters worse.
- v. In regards to a query as to why Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) were not included in the Steering Group being established Mr Balfour explained that MBC were active members in other groups in regards to the management of Operation Stack and were not required as a part of the Steering Group for the delivery of long term solutions.

- vi. That potential sites for lorry parks were being considered. Which sites were being considered could not yet be discussed, because of this Westenhanger could not be ruled out as an option.

It was suggested and agreed that the following be included in the recommendation; "The Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee note and acknowledge the problems that potentially could be caused by using the Manston Airport site as a short term solution to Operation Stack."

It was RESOLVED that the recommendation with the agreed addition be noted.

Ms Carruthers was given thanks by the Cabinet Member and committee for all of her hard work in this area.

## **112. Drainage and Planning Policy Statement** *(Item B2)*

The committee received a report seeking endorsement of, or recommendations to the Cabinet Member of Environment and Transport on the proposed decision to adopt the Drainage and Planning Policy as attached at Appendix A of the report.

Max Tant, Flood Risk Manager, introduced the report and explained that Kent County Council has become a new statutory consultee for surface water in major planning applications in April this year. In response to this Kent County Council has prepared the draft Drainage and Planning Policy detailed in its entirety in the report. Bronwyn Buntine, Sustainable Drainage Engineer, was also in attendance to discuss the item.

In response to comments made and questions raised by members Mr Tant and Ms Buntine gave the following information:

- i. It was estimated that an excess of 500 major planning applications would be received a year prior to this commencing. From the consultation requests received so far this year, they were expecting closer to 600 major planning applications by the end of the year.
- ii. 2 full time members of staff have been employed to give pre-planning advice and consultation responses.
- iii. It was emphasised that there were currently no concerns that 2 members of staff would not be sufficient in achieving this, but it would be kept under review.

It was RESOLVED that the proposed decision to adopt the Drainage and Planning Policy as found in the report be endorsed.

## **113. Contracts for the provision of Reception, Bulking and Transport of Residual Waste (Canterbury and Thanet Area) for final disposal at the Allington Waste to Energy Facility or other nominated facilities** *(Item B3)*

Roger Wilkin, Interim Director of Highways, Transportation and Waste, introduced the report which asked the Committee to consider and endorse or make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport on the

proposed to decision to delegate the award of contracts for the Bulking, Transportation and Residual Waste, and any subsequent extensions, to serve Canterbury City Council (CCC) and Thanet District Council (TDC.) Mr Wilkin explained this would be needed for Kent County Council to continue to fulfil its statutory obligations as a waste disposal authority. Mr Wilkin also confirmed that the use of landfill would be avoided as much as possible.

David Beaver, Head of Commercial Management and Waste Services, was in attendance to speak on this item. Mr Beaver emphasised that this report only concerns the administrative areas of CCC and TDC. He gave the following information:

- i. At this time a single third party operates both contracts for reception, bulking and transport of residual waste in both Canterbury and Thanet.
- ii. This single third party operates from Thanet.
- iii. During the commissioning process it was decided the most efficient way of undertaking the tendering process was to let both contracts at the same time.
- iv. Tenders will be received and evaluated in September/October.
- v. The estimated value of these contracts is £5m, which is within the existing revenue budget of Waste Management service.

In response to concerns from members Mr Balfour, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, confirmed the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee and other committees would be would be consulted on during stage of this process.

The recommendations in the report were put to vote and it was RESOLVED that the recommendations within the report be agreed;

*Carried, 11 votes to 2.*

**114. A28/A291 Sturry Link Road, Canterbury**  
*(Item B4)*

Mary Gillett, Major Projects Planning Manager, introduced the report which asked the committee to endorse or make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, on taking the A81/A291 Sturry Link Road highway improvement scheme through the next stages of development. She brought the committee's attention to the map included with the report and gave the following information;

- i. That development of the A28/A291 Sturry Link Road would be critical in supporting new housing developments in the area that are included in Canterbury City Council's emerging District Local Plan.
- ii. That work had been started to secure funding for this project.
- iii. That Kent County Council has been allocated part funding for this project from the Local Growth Fund, subject to a transport business case.
- iv. A Compulsory Purchase Order may be required to acquire some of the land required should voluntary negotiation not be successful.

Mr Marsh recommended, and Mr Baldock seconded, that the proposed record of decision and recommendation be amended to read;



“As Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport, I agree, subject to being invited to give further specific authorities as necessary and with prior reversion to the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee on matters of significance, to:”

And with the inclusion of the word **firm** in part v as follows;

“v) give approval for Legal Services to enter into **firm** land and funding Agreements associated with the developments contributing to the Link Road;”

In response to concerns raised and comments made by members Ms Gillett confirmed the following;

- i. That potential bus routes down the new Link Road would be looked into.
- ii. That this infrastructure is a priority to support the new development.
- iii. That all of these items are included in the recommendation at this time to support the deliverability statement that is required for the transport business case to secure the Local Growth Fund.
- iv. That she would revert to the Committee on issues of significance during the development of the project.

It was RESOLVED that including the addition of Mr Marsh’s recommendation taking the A28/A291 Sturry Link Road highway improvement scheme through the next stages of development be endorsed.

#### **115. Exclusion of the Public**

After brief discussion on the content of item B5 the Chairman proposed that the press and public be excluded from the meeting so that the exempt information could be discussed, this was put to the vote;

*Carried, 10 votes to 3.*

Resolved that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

#### **116. Tender and Award of a Contract for the Maintenance of Traffic Signals**

*(Item B5)*

Roger Wilkin, Interim Director of Highways, Transportation and Waste, introduced the report which asked the Committee to consider and endorse the proposed to decision to agree the award and issue of the Traffic Signals Maintenance contract for an initial period of five years. The content of exempt appendix E1 was also discussed alongside this item.

Toby Butler, Intelligent Transport Systems Manager, was in attendance to also respond to questions on the report.

In response to concerns made and questions raised Mr Wilkin and Mr Butler provided the following information:

- i. That a new contract was being sought as a replacement of the existing contract which was extended to its maximum permitted time and will expire on 31 March 2016.
- ii. No preference in supplier had yet been observed and as the law stands UK suppliers could not be given special preference.

It was RESOLVED that the proposed decision to agree the award and issue of the contract for an initial period of five years and, subject performance and demonstration of value for money, delegate authority to officers to issue a five year extension be endorsed.

**117. Proposed extension to the Highways Term Maintenance Contract currently let to Enterprise AOL (now Amey)**  
(Item B6)

The committee received a report seeking endorsement of, or recommendations to the Cabinet Member of Environment and Transport on the proposed extension from September 2016 – 2018 of the Highways Term Maintenance that is currently let to Enterprise AOL (now Amey.) The content of exempt appendix E2 was also discussed alongside this item.

Roger Wilkin, Interim Director of Highways, Transportation and Waste, introduced the report and provided the following further information in response to comments made and questions raised by members:

- i. That member engagement will be weaved into a truly strategic commissioning process.
- ii. Reassurance was given that activity on the next commissioning process will be accelerated.
- iii. It was emphasised in response to concerns about the current contract that Amey had underperformed in only two areas. This has been dealt with and these two areas have since seen improvement.
- iv. That due to these past issues with underperformance the extension is only for two years as opposed to a full five.
- v. That although a five year contract would cost less per year the two year contract was considered a better decision due to the previous concerns with underperformance. Mr Wilkin clarified performance would continue to monitored.

David Beaver, Head of Commercial Management and Waste Services, was also in attendance to discuss the item and gave the following information;

- i. The current contract was tendered and let in August 2011.
- ii. As some of the SE7 authorities are tendering in the next two years it would not be the best time for re-tendering. Mr Butler was concerned the best of the market would not be available at this time.
- iii. Legally Kent County Council could extend the contract to a maximum of five years.

Mr Balfour, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, explained to the committee that to ensure the internal needs of KCC are met appropriate time must be

given to undertake a detailed commission process. This would allow an appropriate commission to be achieved for a more outcome focussed contract.

It was RESOLVED that that the proposed decision for the Cabinet Member to agree the proposed two year extension to the Highways Term Maintenance contract and that Highways, Transportation and Waste undertake a full review in line with the recently published Commissioning Framework.

#### **118. Exclusion of the Public - Ended**

The meeting returned to being open to the press and public.

#### **119. Waste Strategy** *(Item C2)*

Roger Wilkin, Interim Director of Highways, Transportation and Waste, introduced the report which asked the Committee to approve the approach to developing a Waste Strategy as detailed in the report. Mr Wilkin also explained that a Task and Finish Group would be established for members to remain informed of strategy development.

It was RESOLVED that the approach to developing a Waste Strategy and establishing a Task and Finish Group be approved.

#### **120. Waste Regulations 2011 assessment** *(Item C3)*

Roger Wilkin, Interim Director of Highways, Transportation and Waste, introduced the report which asked the Committee to note KCC's level of compliance with Waste Regulations TEEP Assessment requirement and that further service enhancements will be considered through the waste strategy development.

It was RESOLVED that the Waste Regulations 2011 assessment be noted.

#### **121. Ashford District Deal** *(Item C4)*

The committee received a report that set out an overview of the proposed District Deal model and asks the Cabinet Committee they recommend the Leader of the Council, and relevant Cabinet Members sign the District Deal with Ashford Borough Council (ABC) when it is all finalised.

In response to comments made and questions raised Barbara Cooper, Corporate Director of Growth, Environment and Transport, gave the following information:

- i. The ABC District Deal is proposed as the first and other District Deals will vary depending on what each District would like to emphasise.
- ii. In response to a concern raised there was a lack of mention of rural infrastructure in the ABC District Deal report Ms Cooper confirmed ABC are keen to look into and discuss any further suggestions or alternatives.

- iii. Other Districts were aware of this initiative. Both Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council (TMBC) and Tunbridge Wells Borough Council (TWBC) had shown interest in establishing a District Deal with Kent County Council.
- iv. That included within the proposed ABC District Deal was details on how Kent County Council would be working closely with ABC on the Chilmington Green development.

The recommendations in the report were put to vote and it was RESOLVED that the recommendations within the report be agreed;

*Carried, 9 votes to 3.*

**122. Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee Draft Programme of Work**  
*(Item C5)*

The Chairman introduced a report that asks the committee to consider and agree the proposed Work Programme for the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee.

Concerns were raised by members that due to the length of the meeting and the agenda that some items were not being thoroughly discussed.

It was RESOLVED that the Work Programme be agreed but the length of future meetings and their agenda be given greater consideration so as to avoid items being not properly discussed.

**123. Performance Dashboard**  
*(Item D1)*

The Cabinet Committee received a report setting out the Environment and Transport Performance Dashboard, which showed progress made against targets set for Key Performance Indicators up to May 2015.

Richard Fitzgerald, Performance Manager, was in attendance to introduce the report.

Concerns were raised and comments made by members as follows:

- i. A view was expressed that where the RAG ratings levels were set needed to be reassessed.
- ii. That the targets for Trading Standards were not stretching far enough.
- iii. That in regards to Country Parks, on page 201 of the agenda, there had been a significant increase in parking charges.

Barbara Cooper, Corporate Director for Growth, Environment and Transport, commented in regards to Country Parks that the Performance Dashboard did not address money from Kent County Council towards Country Parks.

It was RESOLVED that the report be noted.

**124. Annual Equalities and Diversity Report**  
*(Item D2)*

Karla Phillips, Strategic Business Adviser, introduced a report which brings together work the Growth, Environment and Transport Directorate has undertaken to meet KCC Equality objectives for 2014/15. The committee was asked to note the current performance and agree to receive this report annually.

A concern was raised that the report was lacking details of the impact on the elderly, the disabled and single parents. In response to this Mr Balfour, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, confirmed that this information would all be coming before the committee in a future report.

It was RESOLVED that the report be noted and that the Growth, Environment and Transport Directorate Equality and Diversity report come before them annually.