

**From:** Derek Murphy, Cabinet Member for Economic Development  
Simon Jones, Interim Corporate Director, Growth, Environment and Transport Directorate

**To:** Growth, Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee  
1 July 2021

**Subject:** **District Visits Programme 2021**

**Classification:** **Unrestricted**

**Past Pathway of Paper:** None

**Future Pathway of Paper:** None

**Electoral Division:** All

**Summary:** This report outlines the proposed programme of future Member visits to Kent districts in 2021.

**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 arrange a programme of informal visits to Kent districts. The objective was 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 The last visit was to Ashford Borough Council in October 2019. Planned visits in 2020 to Thanet, Maidstone, Canterbury, Sevenoaks and Tonbridge & Malling were suspended due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 1.3 To reflect the breadth of the Growth, Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee, it is proposed that the purpose of the visits be widened to include key community assets and programmes. The exact details of each visit will be proposed by the District or Borough Council and discussed with the Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Cabinet Member for Community and Regulatory Services, and the Chairman of this Committee.

## **2. Programme of Further Visits**

- 2.1 Further Member visits to Kent districts are being arranged in collaboration with district and borough officers. The format for each visit involves a day-long tour of the principal community assets/programmes, economic development and infrastructure developments within each district.

2.2 The revised proposed programme of visits for 2021 is planned to restart once Covid-19 circumstances are more certain. Therefore the visits to Thanet, Maidstone and Canterbury have been postponed until later in the year.

Thanet	9th June 2021	<b>(Postponed)</b>
Maidstone	24th June 2021	<b>(Postponed)</b>
Canterbury	28th July 2021	<b>(Postponed)</b>

Visits will then resume in the autumn with visits to:

Sevenoaks	22nd September 2021
Tonbridge & Malling	6th October 2021
Thanet	Spring 2022
Canterbury	tbc
Maidstone	tbc

2.3 Members will receive invitations to attend in due course.

2.4 The Committee has already visited Swale, Ashford, Folkestone & Hythe, Dover, Dartford, Tunbridge Wells and Gravesham as well as the Ebbsfleet Development Corporation.

2.5 As agreed by the Committee, should places be available, invitations will be extended to the Chair and Members of the Environment & Transport Cabinet Committee.

### **3. Financial Implications**

4.1 The cost of coach hire is approximately £350 per visit.

### **4. Recommendation**

<b>Recommendation:</b> The Cabinet Committee is asked to receive and endorse the report.
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### **5. Contact details**

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