

By: Paul Carter, Leader of the County Council  
Peter Gilroy, Chief Executive

To: Cabinet – 13 October 2008

Subject: *Towards 2010* Annual Report

Classification: Unrestricted

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**Summary:**

In September 2006, KCC set itself 63 challenging and ambitious targets in the *Towards 2010* plans for Kent. This report attaches the current draft of the second *Towards 2010* Annual Report for comment and consideration by Cabinet prior to its submission to County Council for approval.

FOR INFORMATION AND DECISION

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**1. Introduction**

In September 2006 we launched our priorities for the next four years (2006- 2010). *Towards 2010* sets out how we will achieve the following overarching goals over this period:

- Increased prosperity for Kent through business growth and job creation
- Transformation in education
- Reduced congestion
- Improved health and quality of life
- Quality homes in a well-managed environment
- A safer Kent
- Continued improvements in services while keeping council tax down.

Delivery of many of the 63 *Towards 2010* targets requires cross-directorate and partnership working. Each of the *Towards 2010* targets is accompanied by a public action plan on KCC's website that sets out how it will be met, and which is updated on a twice yearly basis.

The second Annual Report against *Towards 2010* is attached for Cabinet to consider prior to its presentation to Council for approval on 16 October 2008.

Annual reports on progress are discussed and approved by County Council each autumn. At this stage we are half way through the term of *Towards 2010*.

Progress has been made since the last annual report in 2007 and the current status of the 63 targets is as follows:

- 2 (3%) 'Done and ongoing'
- 54 (86%) 'On course'
- 7 (11%) 'More progress is needed'.

These three statuses are the same as we used for reporting progress against the *Next Four Years* (2002 – 2006) targets.

Those targets deemed 'More progress needed' are subject to more frequent progress meetings to get them back on track.

## **2. Format of the report**

Feedback from members from last year has been taken into account in finalising the layout of this year's Annual Report and the separate report for each target includes the following elements:

- Status of the target (Either 'More progress needed', 'On course' or 'Done and ongoing')
- List of partners with whom we are delivering this target
- Progress to date
- Work planned between now and 2010
- Measurable indicators (where relevant – as agreed at County Council in December 2007).

## **3. Approval process**

Lead officers completed their draft reports in July for discussion and agreement with their managing directors and portfolio holders. The reports have been quality checked by Performance Management Group, Chief Executives Dept, and discussed and agreed with the Leader.

The draft Annual Report will be sent to County Council for approval at the meeting on 16 October. Once approved, it will be published on KCC's website.

The draft report was discussed at each of the Policy Overview Committee (POC) meetings during September to allow Members to have a chance to comment prior to County Council. NB The minutes of the POC meetings will be circulated to members at County Council for their information.

## **4. Performance indicators**

A shake-up of the performance indicator process has been undertaken since the *Next Four Years* process was completed in 2006. The Towards 2010 Annual Report now includes outcome-based indicators where needed, which are underpinned by data quality procedures. The report contains around 70 indicators, a vast reduction on the number we reported for the *Next Four Years*.

## **5. Major outcomes so far**

Set out below are some examples of achievements to date:

- The successful launch of the Kent Freedom Pass
- Helping to prepare our young people for employment and further development of alternative education opportunities including expansion of the vocational programme
- Improved primary school results
- The success of the healthy schools and healthy eating target
- Kent being part of the Whole Systems Demonstrator programme to examine the effect of Telehealth and Telecare, enabling over 2,500 more recipients of this assistive technology
- Development of the INVOKE project to give older people greater independence and self-management through increased choice and control
- Brighter Futures successfully sustained with new sources of funding identified through the social care grant, helping more older people to remain independent
- Bringing a large number of empty properties back in to use as homes
- Master planning and regeneration of Ashford town centre
- A package of schemes in Kent Thameside including a new Fastrack route
- The impact on reducing fly tipping
- The huge success of Kent School Games which involved over 500 schools throughout the county participating in 515 local area heats, competitions and festivals culminating in 52 separate finals events in June and July
- Introducing the new targeted Handyvan in Gravesham in August 2007, one of a number of partnership initiatives that has led to a 40% reduction in domestic burglary since 2006/07
- Securing 8.1m funding from SEEDA and the Arts Council for the Turner Contemporary project.

## **6. Recommendations**

Cabinet is asked:

To NOTE progress against the 63 *Towards 2010* targets and the arrangements for publishing the Annual Report.

To RECOMMEND the final draft of the first *Towards 2010* Annual Report to County Council for approval on 16 October 2008.

*Contact officer:-*

*Sue Garton, County Performance and Evaluation Manager, Chief Executives Dept  
Tel 01622 22(1980)/Email sue.garton@kent.gov.uk*