

**Enterprise and Environment: Mid Year 2011/12 Business Plan Monitoring**

**Achievements to date:** Highlights of achievement to date by Division are shown below.

**Waste Management**

**East Kent Joint Waste Contract:** The new waste collection and processing services are in place to serve both Dover and Shepway councils. Overall recycling performance is approaching 50%.

**Mid Kent Joint Waste Project:** A business case to waste and recycling collection, processing and disposal services in mid Kent has identified significant savings to mid Kent Authorities, across the Waste Disposal Authority (KCC) and the Waste Collection Authorities (Ashford, Maidstone and Swale councils). The four authorities have signed a 4-Way Inter-Authority Agreement committing each authority to the joint project.

**New Romney Household Waste Recycling Centre:** A new household waste site opened in May 2011 to serve the residents of Lydd/New Romney which offers a comprehensive range of recycling facilities for the public. Recycling performance for the first six months was 75%.

**Household Waste Recycling Centre Review:** A service review was carried out to ensure the network is fit for the future, whilst ensuring efficiency savings are identified for future years and additional capital funding acquired for future investment.

**Planning and Environment**

**Funding for transport infrastructure:** A business case for hypothecation of funding from new revenue streams is being developed with DfT officials. Meetings have been held with investment bankers to gauge market appetite for investment in schemes.

**Third Thames Crossing:** DfT have been reviewing the three current options and KCC has secured direct representation on the next stage feasibility study. KCC responded to the government consultation on the proposed new charges for the Dartford Crossing, and influenced the Local Economic Partnership Strategic Transport Group to prioritise the delivery of a new crossing.

**Operation Stack Lorry Park:** Three new lower cost, more realistic proposals have been developed, with Highways Agency and Police engagement. Exploratory talks have been held with developers over funding options, and potential alternative sites.

**A21 Dualling:** KCC submitted a report showing that it could deliver the scheme for £70m, compared to the Highways Agency cost of £120m. The report was well received and three meetings held with Ministers Greg Clarke and Mike Penning.

**Transport improvements for East Kent, including a Parkway station at Manston:** The new peak time high speed service has now commenced to Deal and Sandwich. A business case for line speed enhancements to East Kent/ Manston was included as part

## Appendix 2

of the Regional Growth Fund 2 bid submission and this was successful. A business case for Thanet Parkway is being developed.

**Rail Action Plan:** The plan was presented to Minister Theresa Villiers, and at a senior officer level in DfT and Network Rail. A well-attended third Kent Rail summit was held in April.

**Minerals and Waste Development Framework:** The consultation on the Core Strategy was completed. Supplementary sites were identified during the process and these are being consulted on during the autumn which puts the timetable back by six months.

**Kent Environment Strategy (KES):** This is one of the 16 delivery priorities for Bold Steps for Kent, the Strategy was launched in July and an action plan has been developed. An Executive Group and a Champions Group have been appointed to oversee and champion the actions across all sectors of Kent business and society.

**Local Transport Plan:** We have secured £2.273m from government through successful submission of bids for Local Transport Plan projects.

**Flood Risk Management:** The Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment for Kent has been approved by Cabinet and submitted to the Environment Agency. Work with the Environment Agency and Pfizers has secured a £24.7m scheme of flood defence works for Sandwich to which KCC will contribute £4.64m.

### Highways and Transportation

**New Highway Maintenance Contract:** The award for the new maintenance contract with Enterprise was made on time and a fast paced mobilisation led to the contract commencing as planned in September 2011. Early indications are that this is bedding in well and service performance has been maintained

**Revised H&T Structure:** A new internal management structure is now in place following the major restructure.

**Highway Management Centre:** An innovative centre at Doubleday House, Aylesford to improve customer service for routine faults, increase real time information and active management of the network has been delivered within the new Enterprise contract.

**Aylesford Highways Depot:** The refurbished office opened on time in April and the Depot was ready for the launch of the new highway contract in September.

**Winter Service:** A winter review has been completed and a new winter service plan has been published.

**Freedom Pass:** Implementation of the new Freedom Pass scheme and credit card payment facility was launched in June.

## Appendix 2

**Member Highway Fund:** An improved process has been put in place with higher take up of annual allocation and connection to localism agenda. Work is going on to improve information and communications with Members.

**Telent:** The refresh and improvement of the Traffic Signals contract with telent has been delivered on time with significant improvements.

**New national driver diversionary scheme:** The new training scheme has been launched with high take up and The Safety Camera Partnership model is supported by the increase in income from course attendance.

**Public access to highway services:** Improvements to the fault reporting website are now up and running with further enhancements being developed.

**Drainage Policy & Strategy:** The KCC website has been improved to outline the new approach to schedule cleansing and weekly updates are posted outlining programmes of work planned and completed. The asset management guides for staff and customers are currently being prepared.

**Delayed Projects** : Projects that are known to be running later than originally expected are shown below.

### Highways and Transportation

**Materials to use in Kent:** The project to deliver an approved list of materials for use on Kent's roads and pavements to minimise future revenue costs is currently in consultation and has not yet been published.