

**From: David Brazier, Cabinet Member – Transport & Environment**

**John Burr - Director of Highways & Transportation**

**To: Environment, Highways & Waste Cabinet Committee – 13 December 2013**

**Decision No: 13/00038**

**Subject: Joint Transportation Boards Agreement and Governance**

**Classification: Unrestricted**

**Past Pathway of Paper:** Environment, Highways & Waste Cabinet Committee - November 2012 and January 2013.

**Future Pathway of Paper:** Joint Transportation Boards

**Electoral Division:** Countywide

**Summary:**

The Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC) has requested that Parish Councils be given voting rights at Joint Transportation Board (JTB) meetings. This matter was previously considered by the Environment, Highways & Waste Cabinet Committee at KALC's request in November 2012 and Members rejected the proposal. Under the current JTB constitution, the Parish representative may speak but currently has no voting rights. Members are invited to give their views.

**Recommendation(s):** The Environment, Highways and Waste Cabinet Committee is asked to consider the request from KALC to extend voting rights to Parish Councils at JTBs.

**1. Introduction**

A report covering the up-dating of the JTB Agreement and allowing Parish representatives a voting right at JTBs was considered by Members at the November 2012 meeting of the Environment, Highways & Waste Cabinet Committee. At this meeting, Members expressed their opposition to Parishes being given voting rights, as requested by the Kent Association of Local Councils and asked officers to resubmit a report to the January 2013 meeting.

At the January 2013 meeting, Members considered a revised report seeking authority to up-date the current JTB agreement and to provide flexibility for a JTB Chairman to vary the number of Parish representatives, but voting rights for Parishes was not included. Members of the Cabinet Committee endorsed the recommendations and a report covering the issues has been considered and endorsed by each JTB. Amendment to the existing JTB Agreement is now being considered internally by District Councils.

**2. Financial Implications**

2.1 None.

### **3. Bold Steps for Kent and Policy Framework**

3.1 The proposals are consistent with;

- To put the citizen in control

### **4. The Report**

#### **4.1 Kent Association of Local Councils**

KALC has formally requested that consideration be given to introducing voting rights for Parish representative/s attending the JTB. In principle this is a reasonable request. It is suggested that Members give consideration to each JTB having two Parish representatives with voting rights. It is important that KALC is responsible for arranging the Parish representative's attendance at JTBS and notifies the Chairman accordingly.

#### **4.2 Moving Forward**

If Members are minded to endorse the KALC proposal, it will be linked with the other proposed changes to the JTB Agreement and should then be individually ratified by each District Council through its own agreed constitution. A report will then be provided for each JTB confirming the revision to the Agreement and clarifying the Parish representation issue with the formal outcome. It is then anticipated that each District Council will enter into a revised Agreement with the County Council to reflect the changes approved. At this point the matter will be reported to this Committee to make a final recommendation to the Cabinet Member.

### **5. Conclusions**

Members are asked to consider whether Parish Council representatives at JTBS should be given voting rights following a request from KALC.

### **6. Recommendation(s)**

#### **Recommendation(s):**

**The Environment, Highways and Waste Cabinet Committee** is asked to consider the request from KALC to extend voting rights to Parish Councils at JTBS.

### **7. Background Documents** None

### **8. Contact details**

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