

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL - RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY

Paul Carter
Leader of Kent County Council

DECISION NO.

12/02035

If decision is likely to disclose exempt information please specify the relevant paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

Subject:

Regional Growth Fund – Acceptance of Grant Offer

Decision:

I agree:

1. To accept the Government's offer of Regional Growth Fund grant in respect of the Expansion East Kent and Line Speed Enhancement projects;
2. To delegate authority to the Director of Economic Development to sign on behalf of the County Council the Grant Offer Letter for the Expansion East Kent project;
3. To delegate authority to the Director of Planning and Environment to sign on behalf of the County Council the Grant Offer Letter for the Line Speed Enhancement project, subject to receipt of a final Offer Letter from the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and consultation on its content with the Director of Governance and Law.

Any Interest Declared when the Decision was Taken

None

Reason(s) for decision, including alternatives considered and any additional information

Background

In summer 2011, KCC (on behalf of the Sandwich Economic Development Task Force) applied to the Government's Regional Growth Fund for a £40 million programme of assistance for the districts of Canterbury, Dover, Shepway and Thanet. This programme sought to:

- a) Establish a programme of direct financial assistance to existing businesses and inward investors in East Kent, known as Expansion East Kent; and
- b) Maximise the benefit of High Speed One to East Kent by providing part-funding to line speed enhancement between Ashford and Ramsgate.

The Government has approved funding for the full programme, allocating £35 million for the Expansion East Kent project and £5 million for the Line Speed Enhancement project. The Government has since issued a separate draft Grant Offer Letter for each project. More details are provided in the attached appendix.

Reasons for decision

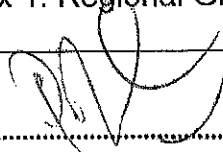
A decision is required under the terms of the Council's Constitution because KCC has received draft Grant Offer Letters for both projects and must decide whether or not to enter accept the Government's offers of funding.

Additional information

The members of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee have been consulted.

Background Documents:

Appendix 1: Regional Growth Fund: Acceptance of Grant Offer (background report)



signed

26/3/12

date

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Decision Referred to Cabinet Scrutiny			
YES		NO	

Cabinet Scrutiny Decision to Refer Back for Reconsideration			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration Record Sheet Issued			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration of Decision Published			