

# KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

**DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:**

Mr M Dance, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

**DECISION NO:**

14/00107

For publication

Non Key decision

**Subject: Support for Kent Downs and East Kent LEADER Programmes 2015- 2020**

**Decision:**

As Cabinet Member for Economic Development, I agree to:-  
KCC remaining the accountable body for Kent Downs and Marshes Leader for the new Programme period ending in 2020 and also takes on this function for East Kent Leader. This would enable both Leader groups to have one administrative team looking after both and a sharing of back office functions, resulting in efficiencies and reduced staff costs.

**Reason(s) for decision:**

The new Leader Programmes will help the economy grow, tackle disadvantage and put the citizen in control. The Programmes will engage with rural businesses and communities to achieve growth and jobs They will provide external investment from the EU and Defra funded RDPE 2014-2020 to enable the above actions to be met.

**Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:**

RESOLVED that the Growth, Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee endorses the decision to be taken by the Cabinet Member, Economic Development for KCC to remain the accountable body for Kent Downs and Marshes Leader for the new Programme period ending in 2020 and also takes on this function for East Kent Leader. This would enable both Leader groups to have one administrative team looking after both and a sharing of back office functions, resulting in efficiencies and reduced staff costs.

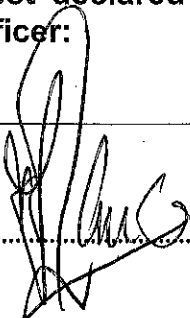
**Any alternatives considered:**

No

**Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:**

No

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signed



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date

28.9.14

# MINUTE EXTRACT

## KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

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### GROWTH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITIES CABINET COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Growth Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee held in the Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Tuesday, 16 September 2014.

PRESENT: Mr M A Wickham (Chairman), Mr S Holden (Vice-Chairman), Mr M Baldock, Mr M A C Balfour, Mr A H T Bowles, Miss S J Carey, Mr B E Clark, Mr G Lymer, Mr F McKenna, Mrs E D Rowbotham, Mrs P A V Stockell (Substitute for Mr C Simkins) and Mr R Truelove

ALSO PRESENT: Mr M C Dance, Mr P M Hill, OBE, Mr J Bunnett and Ms A McNulty, Chief Executive, Education Business Partnership, Kent

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms B Cooper (Director Economic Development), Mrs T Bruton (Head of Regeneration Projects), Mr R Gill (Economic Policy and Strategy Manager), Mr R Fitzgerald (Performance Manager), Mr M Scrivener (Corporate Risk Manager), Ms A Agyepong (Equalities and Diversity Manager) and Ms C A Singh (Democratic Services Officer)

#### UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

**33. Support for Kent Downs and East Kent LEADER Programmes 2015- 2020**  
*(Item B1)*

*(Report by Mr M Austerberry, Corporate Director for Growth Environment and Transport)*

*(Mrs T Bruton, Head of Regeneration Projects, was present for this item)*

1. The Head of Regeneration Projects, Mrs Bruton, introduced a report that gave a background to the activity undertaken to develop a Kent Downs and Marshes LEADER Programme bid for funding from the Rural Development Programme for England 2014-2020. The report also dealt with the opportunity that had arisen to create a new LEADER area in East Kent as part of the process which will enable more of the rural parts of the county to benefit from the opportunities provided by external funding.

2. Mr Holden commented that he welcomed the East Kent Programme and the opportunity to cover as much of the existing "white space" as possible. Mrs Bruton advised that if all Kent LEADER bids were successful a wider area would be covered leaving a much smaller percentage excluded due to the density and population barrier which was capped at 150,000.

3. RESOLVED that the Growth, Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee endorses the decision to be taken by the Cabinet Member, Economic Development for KCC to remain the accountable body for Kent Downs and Marshes Leader for the new Programme period ending in 2020 and also takes on this function for East Kent Leader. This would enable both Leader groups to have one administrative team looking after both and a sharing of back office functions, resulting in efficiencies and reduced staff costs.