

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY:

Matthew Balfour, Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport

DECISION NO:

16/00020

For publication

Key decision*

*Affects more than 2 Electoral Divisions
Expenditure or savings of > £1m*

Subject: Title of Decision

Low Carbon across the South East (LOCASE)

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport, I agree to approve the delivery of the Low Carbon across the South East Project

Reason(s) for decision:

To enable KCC to act as the Accountable Body and receive European Structural Investment Funds of £8,858,923 to deliver the LOCASE project on behalf of the South East LEP

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

Consultation was undertaken throughout the development of the Outline and Full Application with university and local authority partners from across the South East Local Enterprise Partnership, as well as business support organisations such as Essex and the Kent Invicta Chambers of Commerce. In addition public consultation was held with SME's from across SELEP

It is planned, upon approval of the bid by the ESIF Committee, to circulate a paper to Kent Leaders to provide an overview of what LOCASE will deliver for Kent and the wider SELEP. This information will be widely circulated across District and Borough Councils through the Information Point bulletin.

Any alternatives considered:

A full options analysis was carried out and is detailed in the LOCASE Application Form. It considered and rejected the following alternative options:

Option (a): Do nothing – no ESIF investment

Option (b): Funding for Steps to Environmental Management (STEM) only – reduced ESIF investment. (An SME tailored Environmental Management System)

Option (c): Reduced cost LOCASE grant scheme – reduced ESIF investment

Option (d): Stagger core SME offering – delay in ESIF investment

The proposal was considered at the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee on 11 March and Members unanimously agreed to endorse it.

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

None



signed

22nd March 2016

date