By: Mark Dance, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

To: Growth, Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee

- 22 March 2017

Subject: RGF Programmes and Framework for Monitoring Report

Escalate (West Kent and parts of East Sussex)Expansion East Kent (East Kent and Ashford)

Tiger (North Kent and Thurrock)

Classification: Unrestricted

### **Summary Headline**

- Job Creation and Jobs Safeguarded: the figures have increased since the last report.
- Monitoring Returns: Out of the 210 companies being reported on during this period there has been a decrease of companies risk rated as Green or Amber (75%); the Red rated companies are now 25%. Last quarter, the respective percentages were 85% Green and Amber and 15% Red. In the Escalate scheme an additional eight companies have been RAG rated RED and an additional 14 companies were RAG rated RED in the Expansion East Kent scheme
- **Outstanding Debt:** Although the total outstanding debt is currently recorded as £3,528,143, equated to 6.28% of overall funds defrayed, it is important to note:
  - £352,254 has been recovered/agreed with the administrators.
  - £1,498,729 is confirmed as being non recoverable.
  - The recovery of the remaining debt (£1,677,160) is being pursued.
  - £15,000, which was previously reported as bad debt, is now being repaid due to action taken by officers in pursuing the debt.

#### Recommendation

To note the report

### 1. <u>Background Information</u>

- 1.1 Since November 2011 the Department of Business, Enterprise, Innovation and Skills (BEIS) has allocated £55 million to KCC for three schemes:
  - Expansion East Kent (£35 million)
  - Tiger (£14.5 million)
  - Escalate (£5.5 million)
- 1.2 These schemes provide funds for companies with investment plans that will lead to job creation. For the majority of the companies the loan finance is provided at 0% interest,

- with a repayment period of between 5 and 7 years. The schemes have also allocated grants and equity investments.
- 1.3 This report provides an update on the allocation of funds to companies in the format previously agreed by the Growth, Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee.

## 2. Update on all RGF Schemes

- 2.1 As of 31 December 2016, KCC has committed £56.3 million (£55m plus accrued interest and recyclable funds) across the three RGF schemes since April 2012.
- 2.2 These companies have loan agreements to create 4,097 jobs and will leverage in over £88 million, from private and public sector investment. The overall job target is 6,910 jobs to be created or safeguarded and this includes the period of recyclable funds. The monitoring returns covering the period October 2016 to December 2016 include evidence of employment contracts for the creation of 2,348 jobs and safeguarded of 1,610.

Job Status	Target to Date	Actuals to Date	Percentage against target
Jobs Created	2,776	2,348	85% (Green)
Jobs Safeguarded	1,486	1,610*	108% (Green)

<sup>\*</sup> There has been a small reduction in the number of safeguarded jobs figure since the previous quarter due to a few companies showing a reduction in the number of staff in safeguarded roles. This figure is still exceeding its target.

2.3 Additionally, within this monitoring period, one loan to the value of £90,000 has been reported as bad debt and one loan to the value of £15,000 which was previously reported as bad debt is now repaying their loan. The cumulative total of the companies who have defaulted on their loans is as follows:-

Bad Debts previously reported in Red Category A:	No of Companies	Percentage of number of companies supported	Loan Value	Percentage of overall defrayed funds
Total Bad Debt	21	8.7%	£3,528,143	6.26%

#### 3. Detailed Cumulative Summary of Monitoring

- 3.1 As part of the loan agreement, each company is contracted to provide quarterly monitoring returns. These returns are in arrears of the previous quarter, and upon receipt and internal validation, one of the following RAG ratings is applied:-
- Green Risk Status: full return received and no outstanding issues.
- Amber Risk Status: partial return received and/or issues re contracted milestones.
- Red Risk Status: non return received and non-achievement of key milestones; loan repayment, job outcomes and/or delay to planned objectives.

3.2 The following table provides a headline summary of actual performance against contractual target for all three RGF programmes for the period of October 2016 to December 2016. It has resulted in Green 112, Amber 46 and Red 52:

No of companies in monitoring reporting cycle	No of companies reporting on	No of companies in Green Risk Status	No of companies in Amber Risk Status	No of companies in Red Risk Status	
242	210	112 (53%)	46 (22%)	52 (25%)	
Loan Values					
£55,414,910	£45,170,473	£24,948,806	£14,030,273	£6,191,394	

Out of the 210 companies within this monitoring reporting cycle, 75% (158) fall within green and amber. This equates to a monetary loan value of £38,979,079.

#### 4. Details of Red Risk Status

4.1 The table below provides details on 52 companies (25%) that have been rated as RED risk status. The red risk status falls into three categories as follows:

Breakdown of Red Risk Status 25%	Category A Non Payment of Debt	Category B Nil Return of Monitoring Form	Category C Significant shortfall on milestones / targets
No of Companies	1 *	13 (6%)	39 (19%)
Combined Loan Value	£90,000	£709,266	£5,482,128
Actions to be taken	Companies in Administration	Follow up emails and site visits	Companies under review variations of contract offered

<sup>\*</sup> Excluded from figures in 3.2 due to being bad debt.

4.2 The cumulative total of the companies who have defaulted on the loans is as follows:-

Cumulative Bad Debts	No of Companies	Percentage of number of companies supported	Loan Value	Percentage of overall defrayed funds
Previous Bad Debt	21	8.7%	£3,453,143	£56,383,859
<b>Current Quarter Bad Debt</b>	1	0.4%	£90,000	
Total Bad Debt	21*	8.7%	£3,528,143	6.26%

<sup>\*</sup> One company which had been previously classified as bad debt is now repaying the loan due to action taken by officers. Therefore, although there was one additional company which is now classified as bad debt, another company has been removed from the total with a total loan of £15,000.

4.3 Of the 21 companies which have gone into liquidation or in the process of going into administration, KCC Legal and Internal Audit have been advised as appropriate and are working with the RGF manager to recover the maximum amount of loan value.

## 5. Profile for Repayments of Funds (as at 31 December 2016)

5.1 There are two loan repayment periods within each financial year; September and March. The cumulative estimated amount to be received by September 2016 was £10,103,611. The actual amount receipted to date is £9,624,335, which represents an achievement of 95%. The table below provides details of the repayment profile.

2013/14 Target and Actual	2014/15 Target and Actual	2015/16 Target and Actual	2016/17 Sep 16 Target and Actual	TOTAL TO DATE
Target= £338,548 Actual = £338,548	Target = £1,445,707 Actual = £1,445,711	Target= £5,077,097 Actual= £4,986,274	Sep 16 Target= £3,242,259 Actual= £2,853,802	Target=£10,103,611 Actual=£9,624,335 95%
2016/17 Mar 17 Targets	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target
Mar 17 £4,399,692	£8,186,054	£7,296,533	£5,335,959	£4,242,346

**Total Repayment due by 2021 = £39,564,195** 

## 6. <u>Delivery of Schemes</u>

- 6.1 Annex 1 provides full details on the monitoring returns of the **Expansion East Kent programme**.
- 6.2 <u>Annex 2</u> provides full details on the monitoring returns of the **Tiger programme**.
- 6.3 Annex 3 provides full details on the monitoring returns of the **Escalate programme**.

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## **Expansion East Kent Programme**

#### **Background Information**

The Expansion East Kent Programme was launched in December 2012. As at 31 December 2016 KCC had committed 160 investments totalling £36.2m to 153 companies within the local authority areas of Ashford, Canterbury, Dover, Shepway and Thanet. The main programme was suspended on 1 February 2015 and is no longer open to new applicants. The Small Business Boost programme was closed in January 2016.

This annex provides full details of the funding awarded to companies within the East Kent and Ashford area from the Expansion East Kent and Small Business Boost programmes.

## 1. Funding Awarded

1.1 The table shows total funding committed, a breakdown per local authority, the number of jobs to be created and private sector investment (matched funding).

Expansion East Kent & Small Business Boost Scheme	Funds Awarded £	Private Investment £	No of Companies	No of jobs to be created	Saved posts	Total no of Jobs created/ safeguarded posts
Ashford	250,500	115,578	9	25	6	31
Canterbury	8,714,680	9,190,925	44	1,264	89	1,353
Dover	15,131,357	28,377,539	34	688	246	934
Shepway	6,263,468	10,075,900	25	487	130	617
Thanet	6,026,256	8,901,781	41	415	270	685
Total	£36,386,261	£56,661,723	153	2879	741	3,620

Total   Committed £36,386,261 £56,661,723 153 2,879 741   Funding   Funding	4		£36,386,261	£56,661,723	153	2,879	741	3,620
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- 1.2 Within the Expansion East Kent scheme, there is:
  - (a) an equity programme, whereby the Investment Advisory Board, agreed to ring fence and commit, £5 million. All the funds for equity investments have been committed.
  - (b) a small loan scheme, Small Business Boost, whereby the Investment Advisory Board agreed to ring fence £1 million, from the original £35m. All of the original allocation for Small Business Boost has been committed and defrayed. An additional allocation (£602,648), from the accrued interest and recycled loan repayments, as directed by the Investment Advisory Board, has been made available. Total amount defrayed is £1,602,648.

#### 2. Defrayment of Funds (to include additional allocation to SBB)

2.1 Each company applying to the programme provides a profile for the drawdown of funds. This drawdown would be dependent on the needs of the businesses and the companies' plans for growth. The profile for the defrayment of funds is as follows:-

Funds committed and defrayed as at 30 <sup>th</sup> September	= £35,639,070}	
Estimated funds remaining to be defrayed	£654,949}	£36,294,019

#### 3. Profile for Repayments of Funds (as at 31 December 2016)

- 3.1 All repayment of loans and returns on Equity Investments will be reinvested into future financial support programmes for businesses. The table below provides details on the repayment profile. The total amount to be repaid is £22,026,552. Sixteen companies have been awarded equity investments.
- 3.2 There are two loan repayment periods per financial year; September and March. The cumulative estimated amount to be repaid by September 2016 was £5,385,754. The actual amount receipted to date is £5,003,379, which represented an achievement of 93%. The target figure is subject to change, due to contract variations and applicants deciding to repay their loan in full earlier than anticipated, to allow early release of KCC charges.

2013/14 Target and Actual	2014/15 Target and Actual	2015/16 Target and Actual	2016/17 Sep 16 Target and Actual	TOTALS TO DATE	
Target=£335,294 Actual=£335,294	Target=£820,663 Actual=£820,667	Target=£2,381,223 Actual=£2,306,152	Sep 16 Target=£1,847,474 Actual=£1,541,266	Target=£5,384,654 Actual=£5,003,379 93%	
2016/17 Mar 17 Target	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	
Mar 17 Target = £2,513,110	£4,514,101	£3,833,100	£2,857,931	£2,923,656	
Total Repayment due by 2021 = £22,026,552					

#### 4. Monitoring Returns (October 2016 to December 2016)

4.1 The monitoring returns for the Expansion East Kent programme for the period October 2016 to December 2016 have resulted in 70% being allocated Green status (performance fully met as per loan agreement) or Amber status (slight slippage but in the main delivery of job outputs as per loan agreement) as follows:

No of companies	No of companies reporting on	No of companies in Green Risk Status	No of Companies in Amber Risk Status	No of Companies in Red Risk Status		
153	129*	64 (50%)	26 (20%)	39 (30%)		
	Combined Loan Value					
£35,417,312	£27,398,160	£13,498,706	£9,638,648	£4,260,806		

<sup>\*</sup> Figures exclude companies not in the monitoring cycle, which are the companies which have repaid their loans, have completed their monitoring cycle, are bad debt or are reported on as part of an equity portfolio.

It is important to note there are three categories with the RED status – see table below, which represents data from the current quarter (July 2016 to September 2016):

Breakdown of Red Risk Status 30%	Category A Non Payment of Debt	Category B Nil Return of Monitoring Form	Category C Significant shortfall on milestones / targets
No of Companies		12 (9%)	27 (21%)
Combined Loan Value		£479,266	£3,781,540
Actions to be taken		Follow up email	Companies under review

The action taken on companies in RED Status is as follows:-

Category A =	
Action taken:	
Category B =	12 companies - nil return of monitoring form
Action taken:	All 12 companies have received follow up emails and site visits have been undertaken, scheduled or planned.
Category C =	27 companies - Significant delays in the following areas: 8 companies:
	<ul> <li>Job creation significantly behind, loss of staff/poor retention, and/or no employment contracts to sufficiently evidence job creation</li> <li>10 companies:</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Issues with loan repayments being met</li> <li>5 companies:</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Delays in project delivery, contract variation could be required.</li> <li>4 companies:</li> <li>Currently dormant.</li> </ul>
Action taken:	Discussions and/or site visits have been undertaken and/or are scheduled to ascertain any business issues. Where necessary, contract variations have been undertaken or are planned.

This shows the cumulative position of bad debt companies:

Cumulative Bad Debts	No of Companies	Percentage number of companies supported	Loan Value	Percentage of overall committed funds
				£36,386,261
Previously reported	15	7.5%	£2,726,930	
Current Quarter Bad Debt	0	0%	£0	7.5%
Total Bad Debt	15	7.5%	£2,726,930	

4.2 The creating and safeguarding of contractual job targets have been verified from the monitoring returns covering the period October 2016 to December 2016. The evidence gathered includes employment contracts and payroll reports. The full details of jobs created and safeguarded are below:

Job Status	Target to Date	Actuals to Date	Percentage against target
Jobs Created	1904	1459	77% (Green)
Jobs Safeguarded (includes Indirect Jobs)	740	967	131% (Green)

## **Tiger Programme**

## **Background Information**

The Tiger Programme for North Kent and Thurrock was launched in March 2013. As at 31 March 2015 KCC has committed 51 investments totalling £14,490,000 to 49 companies within Dartford, Gravesham, Medway, Swale and Thurrock. The programme is no longer open to new applicants.

This annex provides full details of the funding awarded to companies within the North Kent and Thurrock area from the Tiger programme.

### 1. Funding Awarded

1.1 The table below shows total funding committed, a breakdown per local authority, the number of jobs to be created and private sector investment (matched funding).

Tiger Programme	Funding per Local Authority £ m	Private Investment £ m	No of Companies issued	No of jobs to be created	Saved Posts	Total number of Jobs
Dartford	2,009,115	1,451,428	9	145	52	197
Gravesham	881,062	843,375	5	44	62	106
Medway	3,813,621	3,420,834	14	222	168	390
Swale	6,544,502	16,370,958	16	344	254	598
Thurrock	1,241,700	3,066,356	5	40	41	81
Total	14,490,000	25,152,951	49	795	577	1372

Total Funding £14,490,000 Committed	£25,152,951	49	795	577	1372
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### 2. Defrayment of Funds

2.1 Each company applying to the programme provides a profile for the drawdown of funds. This drawdown would be dependent on the needs of the businesses and the companies' plans for growth. The profile for the defrayment of funds is as follows:

#### 3. Profile for Repayments of Funds (as at 31 December 2016)

3.1 All repayment of loans, and returns on Equity Investments, will be reinvested into future financial support programmes, for businesses. The table below provides details on the repayment profile. The total amount to be repaid is £12,501,278. Two companies were awarded equity investments (£1,424,072).

3.2 There are two loan repayment periods per financial year; March and September. The cumulative estimated amount to be repaid by September 2016 was £3,303,869. The actual amount receipted to date is £3,262,493, which represented an achievement of 99%. The target figure is subject to change, due to contract variations and applicants deciding to repay their loan in full earlier than anticipated, to allow early release of KCC charges.

2013/14 Target and Actual	2014/15 Target and Actual	2015/16 Target and Actual	2016/17 Sep 16 Target and Actual	TOTALS TO DATE		
Target=£3,254 Actual=£3,254	Target=£493,284 Actual=£493,284	Target=£1,875,523 Actual=£1,866,023	Sep 16 Target = £931,808 Actual = £899,932	Target=£3,303,869 Actual=£3,262,493 99%		
2016/17 Mar 17 Target	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target		
Mar 17 Target = £1,347,125	£2,434,225	£2,400,545	£1,902,936	£1,112,578		
Total Repayment due by 2021 = £12,501,278						

## 4. Monitoring Returns (October 2016 to December 2016)

The monitoring returns for the Tiger programme for the period October 2016 to December 2016, have resulted in 93% being allocated Green status (performance fully met as per loan agreement), or Amber status (slight slippage but in the main delivery of job outputs as per loan agreement), as follows:

No of investments awarded	No of companies in monitoring reporting cycle	No of companies reporting on	No of companies in Green Risk Status	No of companies in Amber Risk Status	No of companies in Red Risk Status			
51	43 2 equity investments 4 bad debts 2 loans repaid	43	30 (70%)	10 (23%)	3 (7%)			
	Combined Loan Value							
£14,490,000	£12,369,715	£12,369,715	£8,969,556	£2,945,159	£455,000			

It is important to note there are three categories within the RED status – see table below.

Breakdown of Red Risk Status 7%	Category A Non Payment of Debt	Category B Nil Return of Monitoring Form	Category C Significant shortfall on milestones / targets
No of Companies	1*		3
Combined Loan Value	£90,000		£455,000
Actions to be taken	Company in administration		Companies under review

<sup>\*</sup> Excluded from figures in 4.1 due to being bad debt.

The action taken on 3 (7%) companies in Red Status is as follows:

Category A =	1 company – bad debt*				
Action taken:	Repayment is being sought through legal channels.				
Category B =					
Action taken:					
Category C =	2 companies:				
	Significant delays in the areas of recruitment				
	1 company:				
	Issues with loan repayments				
Action taken:	All 3 companies are being closely monitored with regard to achievement of outputs,				
	site visits have been arranged and/or scheduled; and contract variation discussions are				
	taking place.				

<sup>\*</sup> Excluded from figures in 4.1 due to being bad debt.

Cumulative Bad Debts	No of Companies	Percentage number of companies supported	Loan Value	Percentage of overall defrayed funds £14,490,000
Previous Bad Debt	3	5.9%	£606,213	
Current Quarter Bad Debt	1	2%	£90,000	4.8%
Total Bad Debt	4	7.9%	£696,213	

4.2 The creating and safeguarding of contractual job targets have been verified from the monitoring returns covering the period October 2016 to December 2016. The evidence gathered includes employment contracts and payroll reports. The full details of jobs created and safeguarded are below:

Job Status	Target to Date	Actuals to Date	Percentage against target
Jobs Created	549	614	112% (Green)
Jobs Safeguarded	573	499	87% (Green)

### **Escalate**

### **Background Information**

The Escalate Programme for West Kent and parts of East Sussex was launched in December 2013. As at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 KCC has committed £5,510,000 to 40 companies and the programme is no longer accepting any new applications.

This annex provides full details of the funding awarded to companies within the districts of West Kent and three districts of East Sussex from the Escalate programme.

# 1. Funding Awarded

1.1 The table below shows total funding committed, a breakdown per local authority, the number of jobs to be created and private sector investment (matched funding).

Escalate Programme	Funding per Local Authority £	Private Investment £	No of Companies	No of Jobs to be created	Saved Posts	Total number of Jobs
Maidstone	2,720,588	3,058,832	12	158.56	108.67	267.23
Rother	136,250	136,250	3	18.27	3	21.27
Sevenoaks	594,000	710,472	6	33.6	18.27	51.87
Tonbridge + Malling	698,510	697,798	7	55.37	18	73.37
Tunbridge Wells	1,158,250	1,397,250	11	151.11	21.26	172.37
Wealden	200,000	200,000	1	6	4	10
Total	**5,507,598	6,200,602	40	422.91	173.2	596.11

<sup>\*</sup>Hastings Funding total is zero

<sup>\*\*£10,000</sup> uncommitted within Tiger and £2,402 contribution to marketing

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	Total Funding Committed	£5,507,598	£6,200,602	40	423	173	596

### 2. Defrayment of Funds

2.1 Each company applying to the programme provides a profile for the drawdown of funds. This drawdown would be dependent on the needs of the businesses and the companies' plans for growth. The profile for the defrayment of funds is as follows:

<sup>\*</sup> Includes £2,402 contribution to marketing

## 3. Profile for Repayments of Funds (as at 31 December 2016)

- 3.1 All repayment of loans, and returns on Equity Investments, will be reinvested into future financial support programmes, for businesses. The table below provides details of the repayment profile. The total amount to be repaid is £5,036,365. One company was awarded equity investment in the sum of £250,000.
- 3.2 There are two loan repayment periods per financial year; March and September. The cumulative estimated amount to be repaid by September 2016 was £1,415,088. The actual amount receipted to date is £1,358,463, which represented an achievement of 96%. The target figure is subject to change, due to contract variations and applicants deciding to repay their loan in full earlier than anticipated, to allow early release of KCC charges.

2014/15 Target and Actual	2015/16 Target and Actual	2016/17 Target and Actual		TOTAL TO DATE
Target=£131,760 Actual=£131,760	Target=£820,351 Actual=£814,099	Sep 16 Target=£462,977 Actual=£412,604	March 17 Target=£539,457	Target=£1,415,088 Actual=£1,358,463 96%
2017/18 Targets	2018/19 Targets	2019/20 Targets	2020/21 Targets	Total Repayment due by 2021:
£1,237,728	£1,062,888	£575,092	£206,112	£5,036,365

## 4. Monitoring Returns (October 2016 to December 2016)

4.1 The monitoring returns for the Escalate programme for the period October 2016 to December 2016, have resulted in 74% being allocated Green status (performance fully met as per loan agreement), or Amber status (slight slippage but in the main delivery of job outputs as per loan agreement), as follows:

No of investments awarded	No of companies in monitoring reporting cycle	No of companies reporting on	No of companies in Green Risk Status	No of Companies in Amber Risk Status	No of Companies in <mark>Red</mark> Risk Status	
40* *includes 2 bad debt	38	38	18 (48%)	10 (26%)	10 (26%)	
Combined Loan Value						
£5,507,598	£5,402,598	£5,402,598	£2,480,544	£1,446,466	£1,475,588	

It is important to note there are three categories with the RED status – see table below.

Breakdown of Red Risk Status 26%	Category A Non Payment of Debt	Category B Nil Return of Monitoring Form	Category C Significant shortfall on milestones / targets
No of Companies		1	9
Combined Loan Value		£230,000	£1,245,588
Actions to be taken		Companies under review	Companies under review

The action taken on 10 (26%) companies in Red Status is as follows:

Category A =				
Action taken:				
Category B =	1 company			
Action taken:	Monitoring return continues to be pursued			
Category C =	3 companies:			
	Issues with loan repayments			
	5 companies:			
	Behind on job targets			
	1 company:			
	Company dormant			
Action taken:	Currently in discussion with companies to reach resolution.			

Cumulative Bad Debts	No of Companies	Percentage number of companies supported	Loan Value	Percentage of overall defrayed funds £5,507,598
Previous Bad Debt	3	7.5%	£120,000	
Current Quarter Bad Debt	-1*	0%	£15,000	1.91%
Total Bad Debt	2	5%	£105,00 0	

<sup>•</sup> One company which had been previously classified as bad debt is now repaying the loan due to action taken by officers in pursuing the debt.

4.2 The creating and safeguarding of contractual job targets have been verified from the monitoring returns covering the period October 2016 to December 2016. The evidence gathered includes employment contracts and payroll reports. The full details of jobs created and safeguarded are below:

Job Status	Target to Date	Actuals to Date	Percentage against target
Jobs Created	323	275	85% (Green)
Jobs Safeguarded	173	144	83% (Green)