

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY

**Matthew Balfour, Cabinet Member for Planning, Highways,
Transport and Waste**

DECISION NO:

17/00050

For publication

Key decision*

Yes –

Subject: Westwood Relief Strategy Thanet

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Planning, Highways, Transport & Waste, I agree to give approval to:

- i) the outline design scheme for the Tesco Link Road, Thanet for development control and land charge disclosures Drg No 4300248/000/14 Rev0;
- ii) progress all statutory approvals or consents required for the scheme;
- iii) enter into National Productivity Investment Fund agreement subject to the approval of the Corporate Director of Finance & Procurement, and
- iv) acquire land and enter into construction contracts as necessary for the delivery of the scheme subject to the approval of the Strategic Commissioning Board to the recommended procurement strategy.

Reason(s) for decision:

Thanet District Councils' Local Plan has a vision for the Westwood area for its development and consolidation into a mixed use hub with an excellent range of homes, schools, leisure, sports, shops and other facilities in a pleasant and convenient environment.

The existing Westwood Roundabout is significantly over operational capacity, which in turn leads to delays and unreliable journey times. Transport modelling forecasts indicate that if proactive mitigation is not realised, existing congestion situation will continue to worsen and that gridlock situation will arise by 2018.

The Westwood Relief Strategy combines the creation of a circular route around the core area of Westwood, with improvements to the central roundabout, promoting increased pedestrian, cycle and public transport permeability, subsequently facilitating improved accessibility at peak times to reduce congestion. This strategy also unlocks the ability to redesign Westwood as a more integrated town centre with improved relationships between existing retail land uses.

The overall estimated scheme cost is £5.2m. The allocation from the National Productivity Investment Fund is £5.339m.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

There is on-going liaison with residents and business community as required and at appropriate stages of the scheme development.

Any alternatives considered:

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

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signed

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date

Name: