

# TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

## CABINET

19 November 2008

### Report of the Chief Executive

#### Part 1- Public

#### Executive Non Key Decisions

#### 1 KENT AGREEMENT – LOCAL ACTION PLAN FOR TONBRIDGE AND MALLING

**To endorse the local action plan and commend this to the Local Strategic Partnership for adoption.**

##### 1.1 Background

1.1.1 The Borough Council became a formal signatory to the second Local Area Agreement for Kent, the Kent Agreement 2, in March of this year. As part of this, the Council was committed to lead work with local partners on developing a local action plan for the Borough, setting out how agencies would work together over the three year life of the agreement to deliver actions against the adopted indicators and targets. The action plan is not intended to be a Borough Council document. The expectation is that this would be a document which is owned by the Local Strategic Partnership for the area thus enabling actions from a wide variety of local partners to be built into the plan.

##### 1.2 The Local Action Plan

1.2.1 Attached as Annex 1 to this report is a draft Local Action Plan for the Borough. It suggests that the Borough Council and local partners should concentrate their efforts on delivering actions on those indicators of most relevance to local needs drawn from the themes set out in the Borough's Community Strategy. In addition, it also seeks to focus actions on those indicators which relate most to the core business and functions of both the Borough Council and local partners. The suggested actions at the local level have been informed by the content of county-wide delivery plans which have now been drawn up for each of the indicators.

1.2.2 Members will note from the draft action plan that there remain gaps for some indicators and targets at the local level. Some data related to the adopted targets is not able to be disaggregated to the district level. In other cases, where targets have been based on public opinion or perception, local targets will only be able to be set once the Place Survey is completed in the new year. For this reason, the

first year of second Kent Agreement is being viewed as a baseline setting year on which actions for years 2 and 3 of the Agreement will be based and measured.

- 1.2.3 The Local Action Plan has been presented to the first meeting of the new Local Strategic Partnership for the Borough at its inaugural meeting in October. Partners have been asked to comment on the suggested targets and local actions with a view to the plan being formally adopted by the LSP at its next meeting in January 2009.

### **1.3 Legal Implications**

- 1.3.1 The Council has a legal duty to co-operate with other partners in the development and delivery of a local area agreement.

### **1.4 Financial and Value for Money Considerations**

- 1.4.1 It is not anticipated that delivery of the Kent Agreement 2 as set out in the Local Action Plan will necessitate new expenditure given that the plan seeks to focus on those parts of the Agreement which relate most to the core business of the Council and its key partners. It is possible in due course that some realignment of existing budgetary provision may be appropriate to ensure that targets contained in the Kent Agreement are met. It is likely that there will be a modest element of Performance Reward Grant available if targets are met but full details of this are awaited.

### **1.5 Risk Assessment**

- 1.5.1 Failure to agree the content of the Kent Agreement 2 is likely to be viewed as negation of the Council's legal responsibility to co-operate unless very compelling reasons for such action are advanced.

### **1.6 Recommendations**

- 1.6.1 That the draft Kent Agreement Local Action Plan for the Borough, as set out at Annex 1 to this report, **BE APPROVED** and **BE COMMENDED** to the Local Strategic Partnership for formal adoption.

Background papers:

contact: Mark Raymond

Nil

David Hughes  
Chief Executive