

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES ADVISORY BOARD

08 June 2011

Report of the Director of Planning Transport and Leisure

Part 1- Public

Matters for Information

1 VALLEY OF VISIONS

Summary

This report updates Members on progress with the Heritage Lottery Funded (HLF) 'Valley of Visions' project.

1.1 Background

1.1.1 The Valley of Visions Landscape Partnership Scheme became operational at the beginning of December 2007. It is a three year scheme with a budget of £2.5 million with the aim of conserving and enhancing the Medway Gap's heritage landscapes and biodiversity; improving physical and intellectual access to them; and engaging local landowners, communities and visitors sustainably in their exploration, interpretation and long-term care.

1.1.2 Some £1.8m of funding is provided by the Heritage Lottery Fund with the remaining £700K provided by a number of other organisations including a contribution from the Borough Council. The delivery of the scheme is undertaken in the area known as the Medway Gap within the local authority areas of both Medway and Tonbridge & Malling.

1.1.3 **ANNEX A** is a summary of the main activities of the project over the past year prepared by Rick Bayne, the Project Manager, who will attend the meeting of the Board to brief Members and answer any questions.

1.2 Legal Implications

1.2.1 None.

1.3 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

1.3.1 The Borough Council's contribution of £75,000 over 3 years ending in 2010/11 was included in the Capital Plan.

1.4 Risk Assessment

1.4.1 None.

Background papers:

contact: Brian Gates

Steve Humphrey

Director of Planning, Transport and Leisure