

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES ADVISORY BOARD

7 March 2012

Report of the Chief Executive

Part 1- Public

Matters for Information

1 MINUTES OF THE RECENT MEETINGS OF THE WEST KENT PARTNERSHIP AND THE LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

To receive the minutes of the above partnership meetings.

1.1 The West Kent Partnership

1.1.1 The West Kent Partnership last met on 26th January 2012 and the minutes of that meeting are attached as Annex A to this report.

1.1.2 The meeting included items on funding issues related to encouraging economic growth and the emerging role of the South East Local Economic Partnership (LEP). Members of the WKP were concerned that many funding opportunities arising were difficult to access and that the bureaucracy of the LEP needed to be reduced. Work is underway between West Kent partners and those from East Sussex to form a LEP sub-group to the area and to draw up a local 'prospectus' setting out the shared economic and transport priorities for this specific area. It was felt that this was needed in order to exert more influence over LEP priorities which was felt to be dominated by growth area and coastal towns issues. The meeting also received an update on local transport issues including the A21 improvements, the proposed Lower Thames Crossing and local public transport issues.

1.2 The Local Strategic Partnership

1.2.1 The Local Strategic Partnership last met on 3rd December 2011 and the minutes of that meeting are attached as Annex B to this report.

1.2.2 The meeting focused on local health issues and covered a number of matters including new structures for both public health and health commissioning involving clinical commissioning groups, an assessment of local health inequalities, Health Watch, and the Borough Council's own role in helping to address health inequalities across the Borough.

Background papers:

contact: Mark Raymond

Nil

David Hughes
Chief Executive