

## **Tonbridge & Malling Infrastructure and Business Growth Priorities 2013-2031**

### **1. Highways Infrastructure**

#### **Strategic**

M25 Junction 5 East facing Slips

M20 Junction 4 improvements (KCC Pinch Point funding bid unsuccessful)

M20 Junction 5 improvements

Lower Thames Crossing – Option C and Variant would have significant impacts on A227/A228/A229 corridors. If the Government is minded to adopt this route improvements along those corridors would become a priority.

A21 Dualling: funding has now been identified in the CSR (£92m). However, the funding does not currently match the DfT estimate from Dec 2012 (up to £118m), so this remains a priority until we have full clarification of how the funding allocated will deliver the scheme.

#### **Local**

Improvements to Hermitage Lane and junctions with A26/A20 if Maidstone BC's recently proposed enhanced housing developments are endorsed in Local Plan/permitted

A227 (A25) Borough Green and Platt bypass (unless M25 J5 slips approved)

### **2. Rail Services**

Additional services from West Malling to Central London/The City

Enhancements to the Medway Valley line services, including improved frequency between Maidstone and Tonbridge, and development of the High Speed services.

### **3. Flood Mitigation**

Half Life rebuild of the Leigh Flood Barrier – Following EA advice July 2012 – to ensure flood protection beyond 2030.

East Peckham – likely to also require improvements probably in the form a small dam structure

### **4. Education**

New school provision as set out in the KCC Education Commissioning Plan 2012-17

Further Primary School for Kings Hill.

## **5. Key Sites**

Tonbridge Town Centre regeneration project, including key transport and environmental improvements and site development pump priming and community investment projects.

East Malling Research – investment to create a state of the art horticultural research laboratory 'M9' building on the organisation's international role in horticultural innovation.

## **6. Business Growth (West Kent)**

Further funding to enable the current West Kent Business Support programme to continue

Additional support for local high growth businesses building on and potentially extending the current Escalate programme

Additional business incubator provision

Broadband enhancements in areas of current poor service

Support for proposals to enhance the vitality of local market towns building on current Town Team and Innovation Fund initiatives.

A new West Kent Business Skills Initiative to promote local apprenticeships, focus on the specific needs of those young people not in education, employment or training, address the need for better employability skills and work readiness, promote youth entrepreneurship, provide stronger links between the needs of business and education provision, support for local graduates entering the local employment market