

Permanent Lorry Park – An update on progress

A report by the Head of Countywide Improvements to the Highways Advisory Board on
11 November 2008

1. Members will recall previous presentations to the Highways Advisory Board about Operation Stack and proposals for a lorry park, and this report seeks to update Members on progress towards developing a permanent lorry park for overnight lorry parking which can also be used in the event of Operation Stack
2. The Head of Countywide Improvements will give a verbal update at the Highways Advisory Board, but a brief update on progress is shown below.

Current Status

3. There are two strands to current activity:

3.1 Economic assessment:

KCC is in the process of commissioning an Economic Impact Study to ascertain the economic impact (in quantifiable terms) of Operation Stack to Kent business & residents and the public sector in its widest sense. Tenders have been issued to be returned by 14 November. It is hoped to award the contract on 1 December and the Study will be complete in approximately six months.

3.2 Survey & design:

Land entry has been negotiated on the majority of the land required for surveys – the environmental surveys extend beyond the site of the proposed lorry park itself. A topographical survey is about to start and should be completed by end of December. A preliminary geotechnical survey is planned to start in January.

The site has been visually assessed to scope the extent of the environmental surveys required. Environmental surveys are seasonal and the survey period varies according to species but the first are due to start in February.

4. A meeting is planned with the Environment Agency because flooding and surface water disposal will be key issues, and talks will continue with key stakeholders such as Eurotunnel, the Port of Dover, the Highways Agency, Kent Police, Kent Fire & Rescue, South East Coast Ambulance Service etc. to be clear about operational needs that will inform the design layout.

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