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TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

TONBRIDGE FORUM

Monday, 24th November, 2014

Present: Cllr O C Baldock (Chairman), Cllr N J Heslop (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Mrs J A Anderson and Cllr P F Bolt; County Councillors Mr R Long and Mr C Smith; together with representatives from The Bridge Trust, Kent Fire and Rescue Service, Kent Police (Tonbridge), Society of Friends, Tonbridge Art Group, Tonbridge Civic Society, Tonbridge District Scout Council, Tonbridge Lions Club, Tonbridge Rotary Club, Tonbridge Sports Association and Tonbridge Theatre and Arts Club

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ms J A Atkinson, V M C Branson, Mrs M F Heslop, Ms S V Spence and D J Trice.

TF 14/23 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

TF 14/24 UPDATE ON ANY ACTION IDENTIFIED IN THE LAST MINUTES

There were no actions identified.

TF 14/25 PROPOSAL TO ADD TONBRIDGE AND MALLING SENIORS TO THE FORUM MEMBERSHIP

The Chairman outlined a proposal to add Tonbridge and Malling Seniors to the Forum membership and introduced the group's representative, Mr Michael Adams.

TF 14/26 KENT COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICES UPDATE

The Kent County Council Community Engagement Manager reported that the County Council was on track to deliver this year's savings target of £81m on top of the £269m savings achieved over the last three years. He indicated that, due to reduced levels of Government funding and increased demands on services, a further £206m would need to be found during the next three years.

As part of the budget setting process a full public consultation (closing on 28 November 2014) had been launched to give residents the opportunity to comment on how savings could be achieved. The Forum noted that further information could be found at <http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/have-your-say/budget-consultation>

Particular reference was made to the Kent Emotional Well-Being Strategy for Children and Young People Consultation which would be open for comments until 5 January 2015. The Forum noted that further information was available on <http://consultations.kent.gov.uk/consult.ti/EWStrategy/consultationHome>

The Community Engagement Manager outlined action taken to prepare for any winter weather emergencies which may arise and the Chief Executive of Tonbridge and Malling took the opportunity to update members on the position regarding flooding measures within the Borough. It was noted that the Borough Council continued to work closely with the Environment Agency, Kent County Council, Southern Water, Kent Police and Kent Fire and Rescue Services to ensure flood protection and emergency planning measures were as robust as possible.

In response to the Airports Consultation on options for a new runway in the south-east of England it was reported that Kent County Council opposed a second runway at Gatwick Airport and that this issue would be discussed by the Council's Cabinet in the near future as responses were required by 3 February 2015.

TF 14/27 KENT FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE (COLIN KING, GROUP MANAGER)

Colin King, Group Manager of Kent Fire and Rescue Services, provided an overview of the Services' recent activity with regard to assisting vulnerable people within their homes, dealing with flooding incidents and involvement with the Kent Resilience Forum. He outlined the constraints on the Services' budget and focused on schemes such as the 'Message in a Bottle' scheme run by Tonbridge Lions and Tonbridge and Malling Seniors which aimed to provide key information in the event of a home emergency.

TF 14/28 THE CARE ACT 2014 (CHRISTINE GROSSKOPF, KENT COUNTY COUNCIL)

Christine Grosskopf of Kent County Council provided an overview of the main changes and implications of the Care Act 2014 and outlined the anticipated effect this could have on the delivery of residential care to the vulnerable and elderly.

TF 14/29 COLLECTIVE ENERGY SWITCHING (CHIEF HOUSING OFFICER, TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL)

L Hibbs and L Hicks of the Borough Council's Private Sector Housing Team gave a presentation on the advantages of a collective switching campaign which, in association with Energy Deal, aimed to help and support local residents trying to reduce their energy bills.

TF 14/30 KENT POLICE UPDATE

Inspector Mark Hutcheon provided an overview of the achievements made in performance and neighbourhood policing. Particular reference was made to Domestic Violence Protection Orders, the protection of victims of crime and action taken to a recent increase in drug dealing incidents. He outlined work undertaken in association with numerous partners to identify people at risk and made particular reference to the Safe Town Partnership.

TF 14/31 TONBRIDGE AND MALLING SERVICES UPDATE

The Chief Executive provided an update on key points relevant to Tonbridge and Malling namely the improvement of the Town Lock area, the completion of the Remembrance Garden, the Airport Commission Consultation, £219K funding provided across the Borough through the Community Enhancement Fund and the numerous community events held in and around Tonbridge which had significantly raised the town's profile.

The meeting ended at 9.19 pm

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KCC Services Update November 2014

James Harman

KCC Budget Consultation

KCC is on track to deliver this year's target savings of another £81m on top of savings of £269m over the last three years.

Indications are that we will have to find a further £206m during the next three years.

Must find £60m of capital to provide additional school places for the rising number of pupils in our primary schools.

Asking Kent residents to accept a small (1.99% increase) in Council Tax

Consultation for your views is open now closes 28th Nov

- 3 questions 3 minutes
- Budget Modelling Tool

KCC Budget Consultation

£1,000 OF COUNCIL SPENDING BUYS

- 2 weeks of foster care for a child who cannot live safely at home, provided by a KCC registered foster carer
- 69 hours of home care for an older person whose needs are judged moderate or substantial and who cannot meet the full costs themselves
- 100 miles of road gritted in bad weather over the course of the winter
- 430 separate library visits, enough for 16 regular library users over the course of a year.

Service Transformation

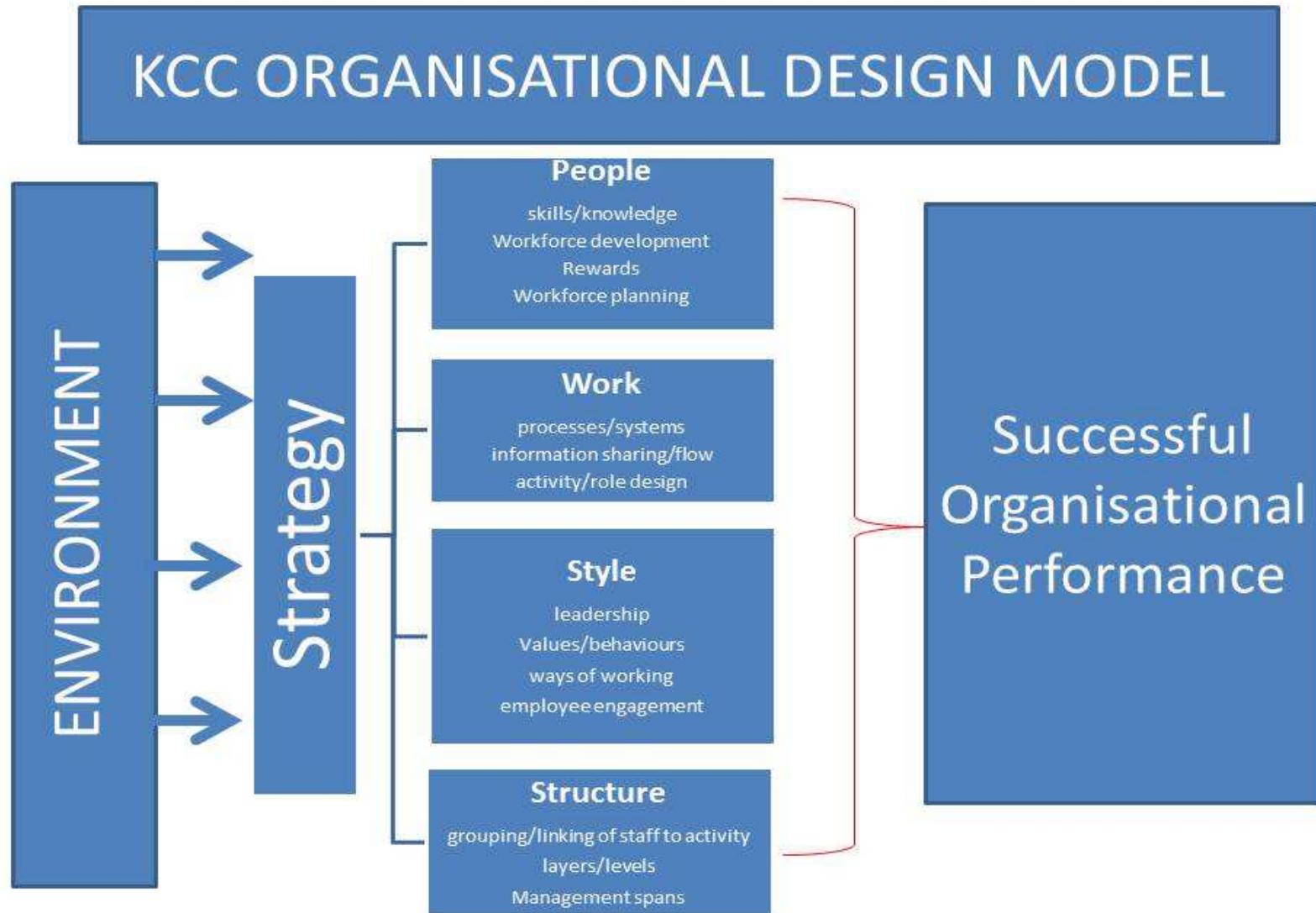
Producing similar or better outcomes at reduced cost

- This will involve changing the way we provide some services:
 - Use of technology e.g. telecare, digital interface, etc.
 - Helping people to lead more independent lives
 - Market engagement may lead to buy-in of more services from private and voluntary sector
- Some examples:
 - Adult Social Care; more support at home, working with health, speedier assessment, new contracts with providers
 - Children's services; fewer children in care, greater emphasis on effective prevention and support for families
 - Libraries; run by a trust with the advantages of charitable status
 - Support services; market testing
 - Waste management; turning processing costs into an income stream

Other Savings and Income

Other savings will be necessary as well as transformation

- Staffing reductions including restructures and vacancy management (250 to 400 fte)
- Reduction in the number of council buildings
- Renegotiate existing contracts with private and voluntary sector through better procurement and commissioning:
 - Care contracts
 - Highways
 - Transport
 - Waste
- Increased income generation from clients and trading
- Full year effect of changes we have already agreed
- Community wardens – 50% reduction by exploring all options including Volunteer Community Wardens



Getting ready for Winter

- 60 Gritters on standby
- Fully stocked with 23,000 tonnes of salt
- Crews familiarising themselves with our primary salting routes, which cover nearly a third of our entire 5,000 mile road network.
- More than 150 farmers who clear a network of dedicated rural routes in really heavy conditions.

For up to date information follow us on Twitter and Facebook @grittingkent or visit: www.kent.gov.uk/winter.

Emotional Wellbeing Strategy Consultation

- Part 1 of the draft Emotional Wellbeing Strategy is open for consultation from 15 Oct – 5th Jan
- First part of a two-part Strategy, which sets out the vision of partners in Kent to work together in promoting positive emotional wellbeing for children and young people, and to put in place appropriate support to meet a range of needs.
- Commissioning intentions will be developed in Part 2: Delivery Plan.

Emotional Wellbeing Strategy Consultation

- **Outcome 1 - Early Help:** Children, young people and young adults have improved emotional resilience and where necessary, receive early support to prevent problems getting worse.
- **Outcome 2 – Access:** Children, young people & young adults who need additional help get timely, accessible & effective support.
- **Outcome 3 – Whole-family approaches:** Children, young people and young adults receive support that recognises and strengthens their wider family relationships.
- **Outcome 4 – Recovery and Transition:** Children, young people and young adults are prepared for and experience positive transitions between services

Promoting Emotional Well-being is envisaged as a ‘golden thread’

Your Views

We want to hear your views about The Way Ahead

The consultation covers:

- The principles set out in Part 1 (which is available now to view) of our draft Strategy,
- and also your thoughts about how these principles could be put into practice within a Delivery Plan (which will form Part 2).

The consultation will be open from **15th October 2014 – 5th January 2015**,

The consultation can be accessed at:

<http://consultations.kent.gov.uk/consult.ti/EWStrategy/consultationHome>

For further information, fsccommissioningadmin@kent.gov.uk

Questions?

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Tonbridge Town Forum

24th November 2014

Insp Mark Hutcheon

Kent Police Mission

'Provide a first class service **protecting** and **servng** the people of Kent'

Vision of the Chief Constable and Police and Crime Commissioner

'Our joint vision is for Kent to be a safe place for people to live, work and visit. By protecting the public from harm, we will allow our communities to flourish and by working with the public and partners, we will provide a first class policing service that is both visible and accessible. We will retain neighbourhood policing as the bedrock of policing in Kent. We will be there when the public need us and we will act with integrity in all that we do.'

Kent Police **Values**

- We will put the public first and deliver a service to be proud of.
- We will serve with integrity and professionalism.
- We will treat everyone with fairness, respect and dignity.
- We will be innovative, use resources wisely and operate as one team.
- We will act with humility, compassion and courtesy.
- We will listen, learn and strive to improve.

Kent Police **Priorities**

- Cutting crime, catching criminals and dealing with anti-social behaviour.
- Ensuring visible community policing is at the heart of Kent's Policing Model.
- Providing a professional service, putting victims and witnesses first.
- Protecting the public from serious harm.
- Meeting national commitments for policing.
- Delivering value for money.
- Developing and supporting our workforce.

Domestic Violence Protection Notices and Orders (DVPNs & DVPOs).

- New power introduced through Crime & Security Act 2010.
- What is a DVPN?
- Who can apply/authorise one?
- When can one be served?
- What does a DVPN do?
- What happens if the victim and perpetrator live at the same address?
- What happens if the DVPN is breached by a perpetrator?

Domestic Violence Protection Notices and Orders (DVPNs & DVPOs).

- What is Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO)?
- When will the case go court?
- What happens at court?
- Does the victim go to court?
- What happens if the DVPO is breached?
- Does the perpetrator need legal representation?