TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISION

Decision Taken By:	Decision No:
Cabinet Member for Planning	D230108MEM

Date: 14 December 2023

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Update on Local Plan Infrastructure Evidence

(Report of Director of Planning, Housing and Environmental Health)

The report summarised the latest position in relation to the preparation of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP), which covered all forms of infrastructure, including water, wastewater, electricity, gas and telecommunications as well as social and health facilities. It was noted that the IDP was a live document and was regularly updated to reflect the Borough Council's progressing Local Plan and the revised business, service and delivery plans of infrastructure and service providers.

Particular reference was made to the specific emphasis on water resources and sewerage capacity, as a key part of the IDP process, and specific engagement with water providers.

Members had an in-depth discussion on concerns raised over both sewerage and surface water drainage systems and were advised that mitigation measures required in respect of the water/wastewater infrastructure to support growth could be addressed in the IDP, which would be reported to Members for approval in due course, to accompany the emerging Local Plan.

Following consideration by the Housing and Planning Scrutiny Select Committee, the Cabinet Member for Planning resolved that:

- (1) the contents of the report be noted; and
- (2) the approach to infrastructure matters as set out in the report be approved.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Housing and Planning Scrutiny Select Committee of 14 December 2023.

Signed Cabinet Member for	M Taylor
Planning:	

Signed Leader:	M Boughton
Signed Interim Chief Executive:	A Stanfield
Date of publication:	19 December 2023

This decision will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of 5 working days after publication unless it is called in.

Date: 14 December 2023

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Infrastructure Funding Statement 2022/23

(Report of Director of Planning, Housing and Environmental Health)

The report outlined the statutory requirement under regulation 121A for the Brough Council to publish an annual Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) and sought approval to publish the annual IFS, attached at Annex 1, and the associated documents outlining S106 contributions secured, allocated and spent where appropriate over the monitoring period of 2022/23.

Particular reference was made to the introduction of a newly proposed Infrastructure Levy, for which a response had been issued to the consultation and a decision was awaited from the central government.

Members welcomed the report, although disappointment had been expressed towards the failing of the Kent County Council in meeting certain delivery timeframes.

With regard to the possibility of repurposing S106 contribution towards alternative projects, Members noted that the developer contribution had to be agreed to directly mitigate the impact arising from the development and any subsequent alteration of its use would be subject to further agreement of the developer via variation.

Following consideration by the Housing and Planning Scrutiny Select Committee, the Cabinet Member for Transformation and Infrastructure resolved that:

(1) the Infrastructure Funding Statement 2022/23, attached at Annex 1, and the associated documents, attached at Annex 2, be endorsed and published by the end of December 2023.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Housing and Planning Scrutiny Select Committee of 14 December 2023.

Signed Cabinet Member for Transformation and Infrastructure:	M Coffin
Signed Leader:	M Boughton

Signed Interim Chief Executive:	A Stanfield
Date of publication:	19 December 2023

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Date: 14 December 2023

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Active Travel Strategy

(Report of Director of Planning, Housing and Environmental Health)

The report provided Members with an update on progress and next steps in the preparation of the Tonbridge and Malling Active Travel Strategy (ATS), which was being prepared in accordance with the Department for Transport's published Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan guidance. Once adopted, this Strategy would replace the current borough Cycling Strategy.

Members noted that a cycle route priorities consultation had been undertaken in 2022 to inform the preparation of the ATS and a full summary of the consultation feedback was included at Annex 1, with headlines highlighted in 1.1.4 of the report. Careful consideration had been given to the feedback received by the project team, with particular reference made to the alternative route suggestions and ideas to improve infrastructure for active travel on local roads and public rights of way. The route suggestions were set out in Annex 2, including comments from the project team.

Queries and concerns were raised over a number of particular routes and Members were assured that future deliveries would be subject to detailed scheme design and public consultation to enable full options to be presented when the draft Strategy was brought back to the Committee for consideration. However, it was recognised that funding remained limited for active travel projects in the coming years.

Following consideration by the Housing and Planning Scrutiny Select Committee, the Cabinet Member for Transformation and Infrastructure resolved that:

- (1) the feedback received to the cycle route priorities consultation and the progress being made, be noted;
- (2) the alternative routes detailed in 1.1.6 of the report be investigated further for potential inclusion within the Active Travel Strategy; and
- (3) the updated timetable as detailed in 1.2.3 of the report, be noted.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Housing and Planning Scrutiny Select Committee of 14 December 2023.

Signed Cabinet Member for Transformation and Infrastructure:	M Coffin
Signed Leader:	M Boughton
Signed Interim Chief Executive:	A Stanfield
Date of publication:	19 December 2023

This decision will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of 5 working days after publication unless it is called in.