

Tonbridge and Malling Parish Partnership Panel

Thursday, 14 June 2018

Kent County Council Services Update

Did you know that many of KCC's meetings are webcast?

KCC broadcasts some of its council meetings live online, giving you the chance to see council decision making in action.

Webcast council meetings from the past year are also available to view:

<https://kent.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcasts>

Key points taken from the Report by Paul Carter, Leader of the Council to Full Council on 17 May 2018 (minutes not yet published).

- Mr Carter provided a progress update on Health and Social Care integration through the Sustainable Transformation Programme (STP), focusing on the delivery of local care. Mr Carter has recently been invited, as a sub group of the STP Board, to Chair the Local Care Implementation Board across the health economy of Kent and Medway. To date the Local Care Implementation Board has held three productive meetings. From these sessions it has become clear that the vision put together for local care, primary care and community health has been signed up to and adopted by all in the health and social care world across Kent. Now it is important to put the vision into practice and, most importantly put GPs at the heart of local care, taking a bottom up approach and working with local consortia of GPs and GP practices. Recently Mr Carter was invited to discuss this with a district-consortia of GPs to develop a model of delivery and determine what 'good' looks like. This must include involving GPs and empowering them to serve local communities. In addition, further funding is needed for acute hospitals and the delivery of local care. Mr Carter is optimistic that the CCGs will be able to find additional funding in the current year which will provide extra resources for front-line services and enable workforce expansion.
- Mr Carter addressed issues that will affect the budget for Education, both capital and revenue. KCC has been working nationally and in Kent, on the provision of sufficiency of school places, and the basic need allocation, working with both the Education Funding Agency and Department for Education to address the £100m shortfall in capital. This is not just a Kent problem but a nationwide problem. It is important that KCC inputs into the Spending Review next spring to ensure there is adequate resource to deliver expansions at secondary level in Kent. This alongside getting adequate High Needs Funding which is overdrawn by £10m to £12m resulting in KCC using its reserves to lend schools money to meet demand.

To view the whole meeting visit:

https://kent.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/348503

Guide to apprenticeships / 'Made in Kent'

Visit [Guide to apprenticeships](#) for careers advice and information about different types of jobs.

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/jobs/starting-your-career/be-an-apprentice/guide-to-apprenticeships>

Apprenticeships are an excellent way to get work-based training, working with real employers, training on the job and working towards an industry-standard qualification.

The 'Made in Kent' campaign continues to encourage employers to register vacancies as numbers of young people registering for apprenticeships still exceeds placements.

Kent Fostering - Open your Heart

KCC urgently needs people to provide children and young people with loving homes. KCC is recruiting 200 new foster carers and urgently needs to fill the remaining 120 vacancies. For more information please contact 03000 420 002 or visit <http://www.kentfostering.co.uk>

Kent Public Health Observatory (KPHO) <http://www.kpho.org.uk/>

KPHO provides public health intelligence through data collection, analysis and interpretation. Its library gives access to knowledge, resources and evidence to support public health and social care.

It has a library based in Sessions House, Maidstone. Library membership is open to anyone who works in Kent County Council or public health in Kent and Medway.

Non-members are welcome to use the library for reference and study purposes, although there may be a charge for this facility. You can also subscribe to its weekly e-bulletin and receive a weekly summary of what's new with links to new reports, policy and resources organized by topic.

Fact and Figures about Kent

The Kent County Council Strategic Business Development & Intelligence Unit provides regular monthly updates on unemployment in Kent and other facts and figures, including area profiles, economy and employment data, population and census data, equality and diversity data, children and young people' data, land and property data, energy and environment data and deprivation and poverty data. Visit: [Facts and Figures about Kent](#)

KCC Highways – report a problem on the road or pavement

KCC Highways, Transportation and Waste welcomes feedback from its customers and has designed a fault reporting tool so that residents can quickly and easily let us know about any problems on the roads and footways or about any equipment such as streetlights, that may not be working.

If you wish to report a fault visit: www.kent.gov.uk/highwayfaults

From here can be viewed all known issues, any planned works, report multiple issues, upload photos as well as track any existing enquiries. Residents can still call to report any complex or urgent matters on 03000 418181 and speak to one of KCC's trained highway specialists.

KCC Combined Member Grant Scheme 2017/18

As agreed at the Budget County Council meeting on 20 February 2018, KCC's Combined Member Grant scheme opened again on **1 April 2018 with £20,000** available to every County Councillor to fund both community and highway projects in their electoral division. Tonbridge and Malling County Councillors between them have a total of £140,000 to allocate in 2018/19.

For more information on the Combined Member Grant scheme, please contact your local County Councillor or Anne Charman, KCC Community Liaison Officer.

KCC also produces a monthly publication 'Inside Track' which provides information on funding opportunities at a county and national level. For a copy of Inside Track or information on other funding opportunities visit: Community grants and funding
<http://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/community-grants-and-funding>

Consultations - have your say, your views count

You can view all KCC consultations online at:

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

Signed up to the KCC Consultation Directory yet? It only takes a few minutes to register and gives a full list of closed, current and planned consultations and provides an opportunity to feedback on local services and policies. It enables KCC to contact residents when an activity is due to take place or to receive feedback for a particular consultation or involvement activity when it is published on KCC's website.

Please note:

- there are separate lists for **Traffic Regulation Orders and Start of Works Notices** and for **Public Rights of Way Notices**.)
- to view and comment on planning applications that the County Council determines please visit the **planning application site**.

Current consultations:

Privacy Notices for Public Consultation Participation – 25 May to 27 July 2018

From 25 May 2018, new regulations came into force which help protect your personal information and make it easier to see how we use the information you give us.

To view KCC's updated policies, which relate to the information you give us when you register to KCC's Consultation directory visit:

[Consultation Questionnaire Participation Privacy Notice \(Word Version\)](#)
[Consultation Registration Privacy Notice \(Word version\)](#)

You can register without taking part in any questionnaires. The two versions above cover the data you give us when you register with us, and the information you provide as part of a public consultation questionnaire. This information is kept separately, which is why KCC needs two privacy notices.

You can stop receiving emails from KCC at any time by logging in and amending your profile information. Alternatively, you can request to have your email address and profile information deleted in full. To do this please email KCC at consultations@kent.gov.uk. This will not stop you from taking part in any consultations in the future, but you may need to re-register first.

KCC Media

To view the latest news and releases from KCC visit KCC's Media Hub at <https://kccmediahub.net/>

Recent media releases

KCC continues to work on £7.5 million pothole blitz (25 May 2018)

Since March 1, KCC has filled in 21,519 potholes and carried out 38,795sqm of resurfacing where multiple potholes were found.

The issue remains the number one priority for Highways and dedicated teams have been assigned their own district to focus the work.

KCC has contracted the work out to local companies in the districts to ensure quicker response times to reports of problems. The companies are O'Rourke Contracting in Dartford and Gravesham; SCG Kent Ltd in Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells; Dukes Contractors Ltd in Tonbridge and Malling and Maidstone; Amey LG in Swale and Canterbury; Steadline Ltd in Ashford and Folkestone and Hythe; and A R Cook Contracting in Thanet and Dover.

Since 1 March 2018, KCC has filled 1,091 potholes in Tonbridge & Malling and patched 2,924 square metres of road.

KCC, which has drawn part of the funding from its reserves, will be reviewing progress in June and will find more money if it is needed. Additional funding has also been invested into drainage works across the county.

Young Person's Travel Pass price rise to offset fare increases (24 May 2018)

The cost of the Young Person's Travel Pass is to go up £10 to offset an increase in bus fare price rises.

The scheme, introduced by Kent County Council in 2014, offers free use of bus services Monday to Friday between 6am and 7pm.

It was announced last month that young people using Arriva buses would also be able to use the pass outside of these hours and at the weekends and during the school holidays from 6 May. Stagecoach bus users can also make use of the extended hours.

New funding for suicide prevention across Kent and Medway (16 May 2018)

NHS England and Public Health England have today announced £667,000 of new funding for suicide prevention across Kent and Medway.

The investment, announced today by Department for Health and Social Care, Public Health England (PHE), and NHS England, marks the start of a three-year programme worth £25 million that will reach the whole country by 2021.

It forms part of the government's commitment to reduce England's overall suicide rate by 10% by 2021 and will support the zero-suicide ambition for mental health inpatients announced by Secretary of State Jeremy Hunt in January of this year.

The money has been awarded to the Kent and Medway Sustainability and Transformation Partnership which is a collaboration between Kent County Council, Medway Council, Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust and all the NHS organisations across Kent and Medway.

HeadStart Kent – Big Conversation for Young People (28 March)

More than 100 secondary school pupils from schools and colleges across Kent met together to join the 'Big Conversation' about mental health in young people on Wednesday, 21 March.

The event, organised by Big Lottery Fund-supported HeadStart Kent, gave students information on improving their mental health, with workshops leading up to a big debate. Workshops with a practical element gave an opportunity to try proven techniques to lessen anxiety. These included recognising how to build resilience, healthy relationships, the use of social media and yoga.

HeadStart Kent is funded by the Big Lottery Fund to support 10 to 16 year-olds to build resilience; which is defined by young people as the ability to be mentally strong enough to bounce back from the problems in life.

The programme is currently active in Ashford, Canterbury, Folkestone and Hythe, Gravesham and Swale and rolls out to Maidstone and Thanet later this year and to Dover and Tonbridge and Malling next year.

There is a **Kent-wide Resilience Hub** available at www.headstartkent.org.uk offering information, videos and tools for everyone to use, as well as activities and services for young people.

Young people can be involved with the design and delivery of the programme by joining local youth forums known as Speak Out groups. Anyone interested should email HeadStart@kent.gov.uk

KCC drastically reduces bus savings (12 March)

Proposed reductions to subsidised bus routes in Kent have been drastically scaled back following positive talks with bus companies and the decision by KCC to reduce the required savings from £2.25 million to £455,000 in this coming financial year.

Subsidised bus services represent just 3% of the network in Kent. The remaining 97% of services are run by commercial or community operators.

Following discussions with bus companies Stagecoach and Go Coach, proposals to move a small number of services from public subsidy to commercially-operated routes, are expected to go out to public consultation in April.

These changes are designed to protect school services and ensure communities currently served by a subsidised route will not lose out, while providing necessary budget savings

Go Coach has proposed revisions to service 404 from Edenbridge to Sevenoaks/Plaxtol to Borough Green. The proposal would take the current mainstream home to school transport contract and convert it to a school-focused commercial service.

The second element is refocusing the current 404 on Edenbridge to Sevenoaks, dropping the Plaxtol to Borough Green which is already covered by another service.

The council is clear that no further changes to the subsidised bus network are proposed. More than £40 million of bus-related business is commissioned by Kent County Council.

KCC's aim in holding **the Big Conversation**, is to maintain services, potentially improve rural access and deliver this at a lower cost. Discussions will be held with parish councils, commercial and community transport providers, technology providers and ultimately culminate in a Rural Bus Summit in the summer which will bring everyone together to discuss the way forward.

For more information on any of these subjects please contact:
Anne Charman, KCC Community Liaison Officer
anne.charman@kent.gov.uk or 07717 665893

KCC's Community Liaison Team covers all 12 supporting local County Councillors in their role administering their grants. The team works closely with public, private and voluntary sectors to help

