

**Item PE 19/11 referred from Planning and Transportation Advisory Board  
minutes of 4 June 2019**

**PE 19/11 CONSULTATION ON AMENDMENTS TO THE RIVER MEDWAY  
(FLOOD RELIEF) ACT 1976**

The report of the Chief Executive provided information on a consultation being undertaken by the Environment Agency on an amendment to the River Medway (Flood Relief) Act 1976 that was required in order to deliver the Leigh Expansion and Hildenborough Embankment Scheme. It recommended that the amendments were supported in light of the benefits that the scheme would deliver to residents and businesses in Tonbridge and Hildenborough.

Members recognised that the risk to communities of this project not proceeding were potentially significant in terms of severe disruption to households and loss to local business and welcomed the greater protection offered by the scheme. In addition, it was recognised that the scheme also offered greater protection and benefits to communities further downstream such as East Peckham and Golden Green.

**RECOMMENDED:** That:

- (1) the content of the report be noted; and
- (2) the proposed response, outlined in paragraph 1.4 of the report, be endorsed, subject to emphasising the benefits to communities further downstream (summarised above).  
**\*Referred to Cabinet**