

CABINET

8 JUNE 2010

CABINET ADVISORY GROUPS

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Rodney Chambers, Leader

Report from: Neil Davies, Chief Executive

Author: Julie Keith, Head of Democratic Services

Summary

The Cabinet is asked to agree to the re-establishment of the Cabinet Advisory Groups for 2010/2011.

1. Budget and Policy Framework

1.1 The establishment and appointment to Cabinet Advisory Groups is a matter for Cabinet.

2. Background

2.1 The Cabinet has established seven Advisory Groups to assist in the key areas of corporate parenting, the local development framework, the local transport plan, regeneration and the Council's procurement arrangements. Details of these are set out below.

2.2 These groups have no decision-making powers and consist of both executive and non-executive Councillors. In some instances they also include external representatives.

2.3 In 2009 the Cabinet agreed to delegate authority to the Chief Executive to make any in-year changes to the membership of the Cabinet Advisory Groups as necessary, in consultation with the Group Whips. This report requests that Cabinet agree to the reestablishment, size and nominations to these groups for 2010/2011.

3. Corporate Parenting Group

3.1 Medway Council is the corporate parent of the children in its care, wherever the children are placed. All councillors have a responsibility in fulfilling this role. Medway has decided to exercise the function of corporate parenting through a Corporate Parenting Group.

- 3.2 The Cabinet in 2003 agreed to the establishment of a corporate parenting steering group, to advise officers on policy relating to looked after children, monitor performance and celebrate achievement. Following the Joint Area Review the group was reconfigured and has now become an advisory group chaired by the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services. The group examines how Medway Council is meeting its obligations to Looked after Children under the five outcomes described under 'every child matters': being healthy, staying safe, enjoying and achieving, making a positive contribution and achieving economic well being.
- 3.3 This group currently comprises of seven members: four Conservative Members, one Labour Member, one Liberal Democrat Member and one Independent Group Member. The officers who usually attend meetings are the Director of Children and Adults Services, the Assistant Director for Children's Care, the Virtual Head teacher as well as senior representatives from the Police, PCT and Connexions.
- 3.4 It is recommended that the Cabinet approve the reestablishment of the Corporate Parenting Group, as set out in appendix 1 to the report.

4. Local Development Framework Advisory Group

- 4.1 In May 2004 the Cabinet agreed to the establishment of a Local Development Framework Advisory Group comprising of two Cabinet Members and three Members of the then Environment and Front Line Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 4.2 Consisting of officers and Council Members the group was established to report on day-to-day details and also local development documents and public participation before reports were presented to Cabinet or Overview and Scrutiny.
- 4.3 The group comprises of five members: three Conservative Members, one Labour Member and one Liberal Democrat Member.
- 4.4 It is recommended that the Cabinet approve the reestablishment of the Local Development Framework Advisory Group, as set out in appendix 1 to the report.

5. Procurement Board

- 5.1 The Procurement Board, which is chaired by the Portfolio Holder for Finance, was established in 2006 when the Council replaced its value based procurement process with a new risk based gateway process.
- 5.2 The Board reviews, analyses and scrutinises high-risk procurement activity across the Council with a view to ensuring the provision of best value goods, services and works.
- 5.3 It is recommended that the Cabinet approve the reestablishment of the Procurement Board and the continuation of the Board being chaired by

the Portfolio Holder for Finance, together with one further Conservative Member, as set out in appendix 1 to the report.

6 Chatham Board

- 6.1 The Chatham Board oversees the regeneration of the Chatham Centre and Waterfront area of Chatham. The group will consider regular progress updates and financial updates. Particular project areas will include:
- Chatham Bus Facility
 - Chatham Road Improvement Schemes
 - Queen St – Proposed redevelopment of a council owned site
 - Waterfront – Comprehensive redevelopment of the waterfront area
 - Public realm – Improvements to key public spaces in Chatham Centre
 - Development Briefs – Masterplanning of key areas of change within Chatham Centre
 - Other major redevelopment opportunities within Chatham
- 6.2 The group comprises of five members: three Conservative Members, one Labour Member and one Liberal Democrat Member.
- 6.3 It is recommended that the Cabinet approve the reestablishment of the Chatham Board, as set out in appendix 1 to the report.

7 Medway Regeneration Advisory Group

- 7.1 The Medway Regeneration Advisory Group supports the regeneration programme in the adopted Medway Regeneration Framework 2006-2016.
- 7.2 The group comprises of 14 members: nine Conservative Members, two Labour Members, 2 Liberal Democrat Members and one Independent Group Member.
- 7.3 It is recommended that the Cabinet approve the reestablishment of the Medway Regeneration Advisory Group, as set out in appendix 1 to the report.

8 Strood Regeneration Cabinet Advisory Group

- 8.1 The Strood Regeneration Cabinet Advisory Group oversees the strategic and co-ordinated regeneration of Strood. The Group will consider regular progress updates and financial updates. Particular project areas include:
- Temple Waterfront - a partnership regeneration project between the Council, Lafarge and Morgan Timber.
 - Strood Riverside - previously considered by the Rochester Riverside and Strood Riverside Project Board.
 - Civic Centre redevelopment site
 - Strood Town Centre infrastructure improvements

- Medway City Estate - visioning document setting out a strategic framework for its regeneration prepared by Sir Terry Farrell
- Medway Valley Park.

8.2 The group comprises of eight members: five Conservative Members, two Labour Members and one Liberal Democrat Member.

8.3 It is recommended that the Cabinet approve the reestablishment of the Strood Regeneration Cabinet Advisory Group, as set out in appendix 1 to the report.

8.4 Members are advised that the Rochester Riverside Board is not a Cabinet Advisory Group. This continues to meet as constituted under a collaboration agreement with SEEDA.

9 Local Transport Plan Advisory Group

9.1 In November 2009 the Cabinet agreed to the establishment of a Cabinet Advisory Group to assist with the development of the Local Transport Plan.

9.2 The terms of reference for the Group are as follows:

1. To act as a co-ordination point and sounding board for the preparation of the Local Transport Plan and associated documents.
2. To act as a partly informal communications channel between councillors and the Cabinet on issues relevant to the Local Transport Plan. Formal recommendations from the Group will be reported to Cabinet. Minority views will also be reported if members of the group cannot achieve a consensus
3. To meet as and when required, reflecting the agreed work programme and associated milestones for preparation of the Local Transport Plan.
4. To receive presentations from persons with a specialist knowledge of or relating to the Local Transport Plan.

9.3 The group comprises of five members: 3 Conservative Members, 1 Labour Member and 1 Liberal Democrat.

9.4 It is recommended that the Cabinet approve the reestablishment of the Local Transport Plan Advisory Group, as set out in appendix 1 to the report.

10. Financial and legal implications

10.1 There are no direct financial implications. The Cabinet has the power to establish and/or remove such groups as appropriate.

11. Risk management

11.1 There are no risk management implications arising from this report.

12. Recommendations

12.1 The Cabinet is asked to agree the re-establishment of the Cabinet Advisory Groups with the terms of reference set out in this report and appointment of members to these bodies, as set out in appendix 1 to the report, for 2010/2011.

13. Suggested reasons for decisions

13.1 The re-establishment of these groups will support the Cabinet in decision-making and the development of policies.

Lead officer contact

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Background papers

None.

Appendix 1

Bodies established by Cabinet (Appointments to these bodies must be approved by Cabinet)

Title	No and ratio	Names of nominated representatives		Term of office
Chatham Board	5 (3:1:1)	Cllrs Rodney Chambers, Chitty, Crack, Doe and Godwin		Municipal year
Corporate Parenting Group	7 (4:1:1:1) plus named substitutes	<p style="text-align: center;">Member</p> Cllr Etheridge Cllr Val Goulden Cllr Maple Cllr O'Brien Cllr Sutton Cllr Wicks Cllr Wildey	<p style="text-align: center;">Substitute</p> Cllr Andrews Cllr Burt Cllr Gilry Cllr Avey Cllr Smith Cllr Baker Cllr Brake	Municipal year
Local Development Framework Advisory Group	5 (3:1:1)	Cllrs Bowler, Bright, Mrs Diane Chambers, Chitty, and Stephen Kearney		Municipal year
Local Transport Plan Advisory Group	5 (3:1:1)	Cllrs Bowler, Bright, Filmer, Hicks and Ruparel		Municipal year
Medway Regeneration Advisory Group	14 (9:2:2:1)	Cllrs Baker, Kenneth Bamber, Bright, Rodney Chambers, Chitty, Crack, Doe, Godwin, Tony Goulden, Griffiths, Hicks, Jarrett, Juby and Wicks		Municipal year
Procurement Board	2 (Portfolio Holder for Finance, together with one further Conservative Member)	Cllrs Janice Bamber and Jarrett		Municipal year
Strood Regeneration Cabinet Advisory Group	8 (5:2:1)	Cllrs Rodney Chambers, Chitty, Etheridge, Godwin, Mrs Haydock, Hubbard, Jarrett and Juby		Municipal year