

Update on Growth and Savings Suggestions made by this Advisory Committees last year

Cabinet 01/12/16:

Cabinet discussed the further growth and savings items suggested by Advisory Committees set out in Appendix F and indicated that some items would be worth bringing forward in future years.

Policy and Performance Advisory Committee

Growth	Update
Broadband improvements	The Economic Development team work with KCC to try to hurry improvements in the District.
Reinstatement of the Big Community Fund or something similar	The Council continues to offer grant funding through the Community Grants Scheme bringing significant return for its investment.
Investment in skills training (Economic & Community Development Advisory Committee remit)	External funding has been secured through the West Kent Partnership and a new Enterprise Adviser is based in the Communities & Business team.
Improved start up business accessibility, e.g. seed funding (Economic & Community Development Advisory Committee remit)	The recycled Escalate fund has been advertised to local businesses
Improved district event and activity promotion	All events have been widely promoted using a variety of sources.
Savings	
Additional property acquisitions/developments	Two more acquisitions have been made in the last year
Investigate further shared services opportunities within this portfolio's terms of reference	No suitable shared services opportunities have been found within this portfolio's terms of reference.
External communications (social and online)	The Council continues to grow its social media activity with no additional cost to the Council. In Shape magazine continues to provide the most effective way to communicate with all of its residents and advertising income continues to support the cost of production and postage.
Look at ways to reduce corporate management further	Management costs have been significantly reduced in recent years and there are no current plans for a further review.
Set up a bank (mobile/local)	There has been no instruction from members to undertake further work on the suggestion to set up a bank.
Become a social landlord for young workers (Housing & Health Advisory Committee's remit)	Work is being undertaken to investigate the setting up of a Social Housing Company.