

## SEVENOAKS JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD – 14 SEPTEMBER 2011

### SEVENOAKS CYCLE STRATEGY: DRAFT FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Report of the: Director of Kent Highway Services

Status: For Decision

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**Executive Summary:** Kent County Council, in partnership with Sevenoaks District Council have been working on the development of a Draft Cycling Strategy for Sevenoaks District. This report seeks approval from members to carry out a public consultation on the Draft document.

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**This report supports the Key Aim of:** the Draft Vision for Kent; Kent County Council Local Transport Plan 3; Sevenoaks District Strategy for Transport; Sevenoaks Sustainable Community Action Plan (2010-2013).

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**Chairman** Cllr. James London

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**Head of Service** Head of Highway Transportation – Tim Read

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**Recommendation to Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board:** That members approve:

- (a) the plan to carry out a full public consultation exercise on the Draft Sevenoaks Cycle Strategy; and
- (b) the intended method for distribution

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#### Introduction

- 1 Kent County Council, in partnership with Sevenoaks District Council, has been working on the development of a Sevenoaks District Cycling Strategy (SDCS).
- 2 District cycling strategies are vital to the delivery of a well planned local cycle network and are useful tools when trying to secure funding. A number of other districts have produced Cycle Strategies<sup>1</sup> and Kent's Third Local Transport Plan (LTP3) includes the objective that all districts in Kent have a Cycling Strategy in place by 2012. The development of a SDCS is also included in the Sevenoaks District Strategy for Transport and the Sevenoaks Sustainable Community Action Plan.
- 3 Board members were made aware of the Cycling Strategy in June 2011 when a progress update was reported.

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<sup>1</sup> Canterbury, Dover, Thanet, Tonbridge and Malling, Ashford, Shepway

- 4 This report seeks the support of Members to carry out a full public consultation on the Draft Strategy.

### **Background**

- 5 Since members were initially provided with a progress update on the Strategy KCC and SDC have been working with local stakeholders on the document.
- 6 A Steering Group consisting of local cyclists and officers and elected members from KCC and SDC was set up and a number of suggestions for route proposals/locations for cycle parking in Sevenoaks Urban Area were made by local cyclists. KCC and SDC officers and local cyclists then undertook a number of site visits to examine the suggestions in May 2011. Further visits to Edenbridge and Swanley were undertaken in June 2011.
- 7 A drop-in Workshop on the Strategy and the route proposals was held on the 22 July 2011. Information on the key sections within the Strategy and maps of the route proposals were displayed and attendees were asked to comment. Various stakeholders were invited to this event including local resident associations; access and disability groups; and parish and town councils. Following the Workshop, the comments made were examined and the Draft for public consultation finalised. A copy of the SDCS draft is attached to this report as Appendix A.
- 8 It should be noted that the suggestions for possible cycle routes included within the draft SDCD are initial outline plans only. Implementing the proposals within the document will depend on securing the necessary funding and detail scheme design and full costings will be undertaken only when funding is secured.

### **Public Consultation:**

- 9 Subject to the views of this board, it is proposed that the draft SDCS be taken to public consultation for a period of six weeks between October 10th and November 21st 2011.
- 10 It is the intention of KCC and SDC to make the Strategy available on both the KCC and SDC websites along with an electronic questionnaire based on the one in Appendix B.
- 11 Notices will also be placed on bicycles at Sevenoaks, Swanley and Edenbridge Train Stations and in the following cycle shops (subject to the owner's agreement):
  - Bigg In Bikes, Main Road, Westerham
  - The Bike Warehouse, High Street, Sevenoaks

Members of the public will be referred to the web address or alternatively email if they wish to request a paper copy.

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- 12 KCC and SDC will also examine the possibility of holding a workshop or publicity stand on the Strategy, details of which would be included in the press release.
- 13 Board Members will be able to comment on matters of detail as part of the formal consultation, but if there are any substantive issues of presentation or content that they wish to raise at this stage, this report provides the opportunity for such feedback to be made.

**Financial**

14. None as a result of this report

**Community Impact and Outcomes**

15. None as a result of this report

**Legal, Human Rights etc.**

16. None as a result of this report

**Resource (non-financial)**

17. The recommendations are fully resourced by Kent County Council

**Value For Money and Asset Management**

18. Not assessed at this time

**Equality Impacts**

19. An Equality Impact Statement has been prepared

**Risk Assessment Statement**

20. *None prepared at this time*

**Background Papers:** Sevenoaks Cycle Strategy Equality Impact Statement  
Sevenoaks Cycle Strategy Update Report 15 June 2011  
Sevenoaks Cycle Strategy Update December 2010

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