

Policy Development and Review Committee	
Meeting Date	16 September 2015
Report Title	Kent Environment Strategy consultation response
Cabinet Member	Councillor David Simmons, Cabinet member for Environment and Rural affairs
SMT Lead	Abdool Kara, Chief Executive
Head of Service	David Clifford, Policy and Performance Manager
Lead Officer	Janet Hill, Climate Change Officer
Recommendations	To consider Swale Borough Council's response to the Kent Environment Strategy consultation

1 Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

- 1.1 Swale Borough Council has been asked to comment on the revised Kent Environment Strategy.

2 Background

- 2.1 Swale Borough Council was involved in the development of the first Kent Environment Strategy and has contributed to the revised version now out for consultation.
- 2.2 Due to our involvement from early stages as set out in the accompanying draft response (Appendix I), the consultation document requires little comment. Most of our concerns and suggestions have already been incorporated.

3 Proposals

- 3.1 It is proposed that the Committee endorses Swale's response, but also has the opportunity to add any further comments.

4 Alternative Options

- 4.1 As Swale is a key player in Kent at both member and officer level in the development and delivery of the Strategy it is necessary that we respond.

5 Consultation Undertaken or Proposed

- 5.1 Kent County Officers have held various workshops and focus groups throughout the county and visited every local authority during the drafting of this revised Kent Environment Strategy. Swale officers and members have attended the

workshops. KCC officers met with SBC officers from across the council to discuss sub actions and there was a presentation to the Corporate Leadership Team. A presentation was recently made to the Rural Forum. Kent Leaders and Chief Executives have also been involved.

6 Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	The Kent Environment Strategy addresses all Corporate Plan priorities.
Financial, Resource and Property	None identified at this point.
Legal and Statutory	Swale has an obligation to report on greenhouse gas emissions and actions in this Strategy will contribute to their reduction.
Crime and Disorder	None identified at this stage.
Sustainability	The Strategy will contribute to both Swale and Kent's sustainability.
Health and Wellbeing	This Strategy recognises the link between environment and health and will contribute to the wellbeing of residents.
Risk Management and Health and Safety	None identified at this stage.
Equality and Diversity	A CIA will be undertaken by KCC.

7 Appendices

7.1 The following documents are to be published with this report and form part of the report:

- Appendix I: Swale Borough Council's draft response to the Kent Environment Strategy;
- Appendix II: Draft Kent Environment Strategy.

8 Background Papers

8.1 None.