

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LYDD TOWN COUNCIL**

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber at the Guild Hall

Present: Town Mayor, R.S. Jones, Councillors, Maria Beach, Mrs Ann Duncan, Clive Goddard, Mrs Pippa Harston, Mrs Jean Jones, Alan Martin, Anthony May, Mrs Debbie McKenna, Mrs Suzanne Piper, Paul Rye, Martin Sweeney.

Angela Alexander – Town Clerk  
Mrs Diane Cavey - Assistant Town Clerk

7 members of the public

7. **PRAYERS** –Rev. David Parrott led the Council in prayers.
8. **APOLOGIES:** Cllrs Darren Chapman (work commitments), Mrs Kim Rye (unwell), KCC Tony Hills  
**ABSENT:** Cllrs Len Laws, Mrs Kerry Manahan
9. **MINUTES**
- a) **RESOLVED:** *The minutes of the Council meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were approved and signed as a true record*  
*Proposed by Cllr Paul Rye and seconded by Cllr Mrs Jones*  
*For: 8*  
*Against: 0*  
*Abstention: 4 (Cllrs Mrs Ann Duncan, Anthony May, Mrs Suzanne Piper, Martin Sweeney)*
- b) **RESOLVED:** *The already approved minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023 and 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were received and noted.*
10. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
Cllr Clive Goddard declared an interest in item 7 on the agenda covering the RBL poppy appeal, Christmas Band Concert and Lydd in Lights and all matters concerning Folkestone and Hythe District Council.  
Cllr Alan Martin declared an interest in all matters concerning Folkestone and Hythe District Council.
11. **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**  
***The meeting was adjourned to hear questions from members of the public***  
**Martin Hooper**  
Q1 Please can I have an update on removal of caravans from Carpenters caravan storage as requested at last meeting on 6/11/23. Cllr Goddard sent me a text on 14/11/23 and I have heard nothing since?  
Cllr Goddard said that he had received a reply to the question from Lisette Patching at FHDC and sent this by text to Mr Hooper on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023 and he had chased this matter again today when advised of the question by the Town Clerk. Cllr Goddard said that he had not received a further update and would update Mr Hooper when once was received.  
Q2 Can the Mayor reiterate the answer to the question re phase 2 of the play park about positioning of swings asked on 6/11/23 as the minutes from that meeting do not appear to show the answer given?  
The mayor responded that the answer is shown in the Minutes of the meeting and that as a Council we take guidance and advice from experts- in this case RoSPA and the playground designers.

Q3 There seems to be a lot of council business being resolved and waved through to enclosures without being discussed in the council meeting. When is this business discussed? The Mayor responded that all Councillors may raise questions on agenda items if they wish for clarification or if they do not understand so that they can make an informed decision at the meeting. Councillors may raise questions before or at the meeting if they wish to before making their decision and voting.

Q4 Why is it that the majority of councillors do not respond to requests from the resident group when asking for information/feedback?

The Mayor said that he cannot answer on behalf of individual councillors.

Cllr Paul Rye said if a question was directed to him personally, he could respond but not on behalf of the Council and asked when this question had been sent. Mr Hooper asked Mr Peter Webb when he had submitted the question and he said that this was in November.

**Peter Webb**

Q1 When will the Rype Play Park be completed

The Mayor said that Phase 1 is complete and Phase 2 is complete and No Dog signs will be installed on the fencing shortly. Mr Webb said that Mr Easter had told him that Cllr Sweeney had said that the green covered structure was being moved (Cllr Sweeney disputed this statement) and that the Mayor wanted it removed. Mr Webb said that the construction brings in teenagers who break grass, have bags of weed and vapes and that he doesn't like the music that they play.

Q2 In follow up to my question regarding the work spec for the handyman, could you please be more precise on what his duties are.

The Mayor said that the Caretaker has a set programme of weekly routine tasks and his first jobs are to empty the bins and then other jobs that crop up.

**Hugh Couldridge**

Q1 I would like a greater understanding of how the CCTV Feasibility Study was compiled and had been provided the Minutes by the Town Clerk but wanted a copy of the full report.

It was advised that permission would need to be requested from the Author of the report.

The CCTV Feasibility Study was focused among the key areas of the general rate of crime, and

Q2 I would like information on the process as to how a town councillor can raise an issue that he/she wishes the council to address.

The Mayor said that Councillors should write to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chairman of the appropriate Committee and Town Clerk who will then discuss the matter being raised by the Councillor.

***The meeting was reconvened***

**12. FINANCES (Appendix A page 9 to 17)**

- a) ***RESOLVED: To ratify and approve payments and receipts as circulated Proposed by Cllr Sweeney and seconded by Cllr Mrs Jones***
- b) ***RESOLVED: To receive and note the bank reconciliation.***
- c) ***RESOLVED: To receive and note the budget monitor***
- d) ***RESOLVED: To approve the statement of internal control as circulated Proposed by Cllr May and seconded by Cllr Mrs Piper Unanimous***
- e) ***RESOLVED: To approve the draft audit plan as circulated***
- f) ***Proposed by Cllr Paul Rye and seconded by Cllr Mrs Piper Unanimous***
- g) ***RESOLVED: To approve the Internal Auditor terms of reference as circulated Proposed by Cllr Paul Rye and seconded by Cllr Mrs Piper Unanimous***

13. **BUDGET AND PRECEPT SETTING (Appendix B page 18 to 19)**  
 A) **RESOLVED** Councillors received and adopted the budget as agreed in draft format following consideration at the Council meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023.  
*Proposed by Cllr Mrs Jean Jones and seconded by Cllr Paul Rye*  
*For: 10*  
*Against: 0*  
*Abstentions: 2 (Cllrs May and Mrs Piper)*  
 B) The provisional Council tax base for 2024-25 of 2187.85 as advised by Folkestone and Hythe District Council was received and noted  
 C) **RESOLVED:** Councillors considered and set the precept request for the financial period 2024-25 in line with the agreed and adopted budget. The precept request was set at £178,900  
*Proposed by Cllr Jean Jones and seconded by Cllr Paul Rye*  
*Unanimous*
14. **DONATION FROM LYDD MUNICIPAL CHARITIES**  
 The Town Clerk advised that the annual donation of £5,000 from Lydd Municipal Charities on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023 had been received and that this money is ringfenced to be used for the funding of small grant applications by local Charitable and voluntary organisation including Club Day and Twinning as agreed in the adopted budget with a cap of £500 per organisation and the closing date for applications is 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024. The Town Clerk said that the details have previously been emailed to Councillors and the poster and application form is on the Town Council website and asked those Councillors involved with local organisations to advise them that the application process is open.  
**Received and noted**
15. **ALLOTMENTS**  
 As part of the Allotment Self- Management Agreement between Lydd Town Council and Lydd Allotments Association Management Team the Council considers funding an annual project put forward which supports the improvement of allotment land and facilities. The request from the AAMT is for £1,500 to replace the timber cladding to the Cabin which currently has water ingress.  
**RESOLVED: To support the application for £1,500 to replace the timber cladding to the cabin at Lydd Allotments**  
*Proposed by Cllr Mrs Duncan and seconded by Cllr Mrs Jones*  
**Unanimous**
16. **RBL POPPY APPEAL, BAND CONCERT AND LYDD IN LIGHTS**  
 Cllr Clive Goddard reported as follows:  
 a) **RBL Poppy Appeal 2023**  
 Around 30 collecting tins were distributed around Lydd and Brookland in shops, pubs and our two primary schools in Lydd. After the 2023 Appeal ended the monies were counted and a grand total of £2,885.75 was raised. A special mention must go to Lydd & Greatstone school pupils, staff and parents. Lydd school raised a whopping £293.49 and Greatstone school a £238.01 The scouts did street collections in Lydd town and raised a brilliant £240.53 in just two weekends and in appalling wet weather conditions I must thank all the volunteers and Angela the Town Clerk for their assistance in counting the money along with the hospitality and Rita (my mum) for all her help.  
 b) **Band of the Brigade of Gurkhas Christmas Concert 2023**  
 The Lydd Town Council Christmas concert by the Band of the brigade of Gurkhas was held in All Saint Church Friday 8th December 2023. led by the Band Master Capt. Esther Hayes. It was an evening of incredible music from the world-renowned Gurkha Band The concert included a lively mix of Western and Nepali music, a selection of rousing military tunes and Abba gold

- “a night at the proms - Gurkha style!”
- I would like to thank the Church community for the making the refreshments – the Town Council has reimbursed the Church for the cost of refreshments and the heating of the Church for the evening
- The concert was attended by Mayors from Hawkinge, Ramsgate, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Winchelsea, Rye, Deal, Folkestone and Chairmen of Dover and Thanet District Councils
- Thank you to the local businesses who donated raffle prizes for the event

Spar, Lydd £40 voucher

The Pilot, Dungeness £40 voucher

Lydd Golf Club— 1 x 18-hole game for 2 people

Lydd Golf Club—Afternoon tea

Action Watersports -£23 voucher

Brew 32, Lydd—Afternoon Tea

Lydd Vets

Londis Greatstone

Usher Motors

Lyons Outfitters, Lydd

M&M Richardson, Dungeness

Varne Fish and Chip shop

Banks Sports and Social Club

Thank you to all the people attending who gave money and raffle prizes and the proceeds of which will be donated to the Gurkha Welfare Trust to continue their fantastic work such as getting clean water to villages and providing health checks in remote parts of Nepal and helping people have safe homes to live in after the devastating effects of the earthquake in 2015.

We do not have the final total as yet but in advance a thank you to the Mayor who has pledged a donation to make up the total to a round sum.

**c) Lydd in Lights competition and presentation evening 2023**

The Judging took place on December 11th -Clive, Mayor and Mayoress – Town Clerk administration of scoring and then myself and the Town Clerk **delivered the invitation** letters to winners to receive their prizes at the presentation evening held on 14<sup>th</sup>

December. Thank you to the Town Clerk for designing the certificates and her assistant for adding in the addresses. All winners received a certificate and hamper and the contents were purchased from local shops in Lydd by Angela and Anthony keeping all the money spent to benefit the local economy. (Anthony said he had never done so much shopping in such a short time). The Chamber was packed for the presentation evening and it was lovely to see families with their children attending.

Winners as follows

3rd Prize Coast -	49 Lade Fort Crescent
3rd Prize Town -	95 Station Road
2nd Prize Coast	Hogwarts Lade Fort Crescent
2nd Prize Town -	4 Queensway
1st Prize Coast	94 Lade Fort Crescent
1st Prize Town	57 Sycamore Close

Overall Winner Parish 70 Coast Drive

***Reports received and noted.***

**17. REQUEST TO PLANT TWO DONATED TREES ON THE RYPE (Appendix C page 20 to 21)**

Mr Alan Whiteside had submitted a request to plant two commemorative Holm Oak trees with guards in the style of those recently planted by the Town Council to be located at the Hamilton Road end of the Rype. A location plan was circulated to Councillors to consider.

**RESOLVED: To grant permission to Mr Whiteside for the planting of two Holm Oak trees at the Hamilton Road/Rype location. Trees to be purchased by Lydd Town Council and planted by Gibbs under agreement with Lydd Town Council. Mr Whiteside to reimburse Lydd Town Council for the cost. Exact location to be agreed at a site meeting with Mr Whiteside, Gibbs and Town Clerk.**

**Proposed by Cllr Goddard and seconded by Cllr Mrs Jones  
Unanimous**

#### 18. DONATION OF DEFIBRILATOR

Councillors considered the offer of a donated defibrillator which also has child electrodes fitted and the suggested installation of this at the Banks tennis courts which are being used as part of the Lydd school curriculum and associated one-off and annual costs.

Lydd Town Council has been contacted by Hopkins who service and maintain our two defibrillators as they have been given a defibrillator donated by Greatstone School who want it to go in the local community and so Hopkins thought of Lydd Town Council.

As this defibrillator has come from the school it also has infant/child electrodes fitted as well as adult electrodes. I have discussed with Hopkins the potential for this to be used at the tennis courts as they are being used by Lydd School as part of their curriculum and Hopkins think that this would be an ideal placement.

It is for Councillors to consider if they wish to progress this and below is relevant information for consideration.

- It is the same make and model as we currently have. So there is equipment uniformity within the community.
- It has the benefit of including infant/child electrodes
- It is covered by the manufacturer's warranty until 2027

For consideration by Councillors due to financial implications,

- It will need housing in a cabinet at a cost of £549
- Fitting and Electrical installation costs to an appropriate supply £200 (this will need agreeing with the Banks Sports and Social Club)
- AED Aftercare and Governance for 2024 is £207.90
- In May of 2024 the adult electrodes and lithium battery will need replacing £245
- In June 2026 the Infant/Child electrodes will need replacing

All prices are of course subject to VAT.

It was confirmed that Hopkins looks after the Lydd Town Council defibrillators under contract.

**RESOLVED: To accept the offer of the defibrillator with the associated costs as set out above and that it is installed at the exterior of the Banks Pavilion**

**Proposed by Cllr May and seconded by Cllr Mrs Piper  
Unanimous**

#### 19. REQUEST TO USE THE RYPE BY LYDD MARKET

**RESOLVED: To support the request from Lydd Market to use the Rype on Sunday 4th August to hold a summer food festival and craft market from 10am to 4pm. Permission is subject to the receipt of valid Insurance documents, risk assessments and certificates associated with the event. To note that the Pavilion is not currently in use and to advise accordingly.**

**For 11**

**Against 0**

**Abstention 1 (Cllr Beach)**

**20. KENT LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2024-2034 CONSULTATION (Appendix D page 22 to 43 )**

The current local strategy needs to be replaced and KCC as the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) have drafted a new local strategy. The consultation will run until 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – Councillors are asked to have their comments ready for this meeting [www.kent.gov.uk/localfloodrisk](http://www.kent.gov.uk/localfloodrisk) to view the consultation documents.

Cllr Sweeney asked if the procedure for accessing sand bags was on the website  
***Councillors agreed to submit their own comments on the consultation***

**21. KCC MEMBERS REPORT (Appendix E page 44 to 45)**

***Received and noted that the KCC members report from Cllr Tony Hills – previously circulated to Councillors and on the Council website for the public to view.***

**22. CIVIC ENGAGEMENTS (Appendix F page 46)**

***Councillors received and noted the civic engagements at which the Town Council has been represented.***

Prior to the vote for the agenda item to exclude the Press and Public from the remaining agenda items the Town Mayor requested that the Town Clerk ensure that there is a Procedure for Public Questions to be displayed on the Town Council website prior to the next Council meeting.

**23. PRESS AND PUBLIC EXCLUDED**

***RESOLVED: That public and press be excluded from the following confidential commercially sensitive agenda item being exempt as defined in Schedule 12 of the Local Gov Act 1972.***

***Proposed by Cllr Mrs Duncan and seconded by Cllr Sweeney  
Unanimous***

**25. QUOTES FOR REPLACEMENT OFFICE COPIER/PRINTER**

**Confidential report 2024/C0001**

Councillors considered the quotations for the replacement of the Town Council photocopying equipment under the KCS framework which is compliant with the Public Contract Regulations 2015

***RESOLVED: That delegated authority be given to the Town Clerk to order and enter into the contract on behalf of the Town Council for the replacement printer/copier***

***Proposed by Cllr Mrs Jones and seconded by Cllr May  
Unanimous***

The meeting closed at 7.55pm

Chairmans Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

LYDD TOWN COUNCIL		PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS		1 October - 30 November 2023	
FOR RATIFICATION AND AUTHORISATION					
Date	Ratification	Memo	Chq no/DD	Amount	
<b>PAYMENT FROM CURRENT ACCOUNT</b>					
02/10/2023	Folkestone Hythe DC	Business rates 1 April 23 - 31 March 2024	DD	111.00	
02/10/2023	Echo Engineering	Supply and install handrailing @ tennis courts	004706	1,852.80	
02/10/2023	HMRC PAYE	PAYE Month 6	004707	1,602.63	
02/10/2023	KCC Pension	Pension contributions Month 6	004708	1,603.10	
02/10/2023	Business Stream	Water rates - Guild Hall - monthly DD	DD	13.00	
09/10/2023	Gibbs & Son	Bill 4112 - grass cutting	004709	402.00	
09/10/2023	W&E Rolfe and son	4 keys cut and a garden fork	004710	36.90	
09/10/2023	ROSPA	Annual inspection of tennis courts	004711	340.20	
09/10/2023	Mayor	Mileage claim for Lydd to Margate and back with 3 passengers - mayor, mayoress, and mayor of new romney + car insurance	004712	92.49	
09/10/2023	Allotments	Return of allotment deposit	004713	30.00	
12/10/2023	Staff Salaries	Staff salaries Month 7	004714 - 004717	4,880.35	
12/10/2023	HMRC PAYE	PAYE Month 7	004718	1,608.19	
12/10/2023	KCC Pension	Pension contributions Month 7	004719	1,633.10	
12/10/2023	Lydd Kart Circuit	10 x 15 minute sessions @ £25 per person - Mayor charity event - to be reimbursed from Mayors charity account	004720	250.00	
12/10/2023	Allotments	Return of allotment deposit	004721	30.00	
12/10/2023	Lewe Luck	Windows cleaned	004722	50.00	
12/10/2023	Lydd Town Mayors Charity Fund	2x Lydd Kart Circuit tickets for Mayors visit, plus one lunch	004724	100.00	
12/10/2023	Higher Elevation	Guildhall stairlift service plan - 24 Oct 2023 to 23 Oct 2024	004725	288.00	
13/10/2023	Lloyds Bank	Service Charges	DD	17.20	
16/10/2023	Viking Office UK Ltd	Office consumables	DD	369.43	
16/10/2023	BT Group	Quarterly bill	DD	687.92	
18/10/2023	A-LA KART Diner	13 x ploughman's lunches for Mayors charity event - to be reimbursed by Mayor	004727	91.00	
18/10/2023	Mazars	Fee for Limited Assurance Review for Small Authorities' Audit Appointments for YE 31 March 2023	004728	756.00	
18/10/2023	KCS procurement services	Printer/copier charges - 12 June to 15 September	DD	137.23	
19/10/2023	Corona Energy	Manor Rd Garages Electricity bill - 1 Sep to 30 Sep	DD	241.38	
19/10/2023	Corona Energy	Guildhall Electricity bill - 1 Sep to 30 Sep	DD	22.25	
19/10/2023	Corona Energy	Manor Rd Pavilion Electricity bill - 1 Sep to 30 Sep	DD	11.42	
23/10/2023	Castle Water	Manor Road Pavilion 1 September 2023 - 30 September 2023	DD	39.86	
25/10/2023	British Gas	Guild Hall	DD	18.57	
26/10/2023	Waterlogic	Watercooler rental	DD	38.76	
30/10/2023	Opus Energy	Christmas Tree & Lighting 1 Sep 23 - 30 Sep 23	DD	24.35	
01/11/2023	Business Stream	Water rates - Guild Hall - monthly DD	DD	13.00	
01/11/2023	Folkestone Hythe DC	Business rates 1 April 23 - 31 March 2024	DD	111.00	
01/11/2023	Prologic	Miscellaneous tools and equipment for groundsman	004729	966.39	
01/11/2023	Gibbs & Son	Bill 4125 - grass cutting, bill 4126 - plant two trees on the rype	004730	390.00	
01/11/2023	Care Signs	Invoice 15371 - Supply of 750 x 1010 mm tennis courts information sign and	004731	150.72	
01/11/2023	Gibbs & Son	Bill 4097 - August grass cutting	004732	798.00	
01/11/2023	Ashe Alarms Limited	Renew dualcom digair monitoring to November 2024, renew fire alarm service to December 2024, renew intruder alarm service to December 2024.	004733	666.00	
06/11/2023	Satswana Ltd	Renew DPO service for one year	004734	600.00	
08/11/2023	Hole Park	22ft Norway Spruce @ special price	004735	282.00	
09/11/2023	Viking Office UK Ltd	Office consumables	DD	257.99	
10/11/2023	Lloyds Bank	Service Charges	DD	26.55	
13/11/2023	Staff Salaries	Staff salaries Month 8	004736 - 004739	5,140.94	
13/11/2023	Clear Insurance Management	370.25, renew cyber insurance to October 2024 - 203.49, increase to reinstatement values for council insurance for Pavilions and Guild Hall	004740	573.74	
13/11/2023	HMRC PAYE	PAYE Month 8	004741	1,561.46	
13/11/2023	KCC Pension	Pension contributions Month 8	004742	1,603.10	
17/11/2023	Corona Energy	Guildhall Electricity bill - 1 Oct to 31 Oct	DD	252.01	
17/11/2023	Corona Energy	Manor Rd Garages Electricity bill - 1 Oct to 31 Oct	DD	11.42	
17/11/2023	Corona Energy	Manor Rd Pavilion Electricity bill - 1 Oct to 31 Oct	DD	23.28	
20/11/2023	Castle Water	Guild Hall 1 Oct 23 - 31 Oct 23	DD	6.82	
21/11/2023	Castle Water	Manor Road Pavilion	DD	208.12	
27/11/2023	British Gas	Guild Hall	DD	21.14	
27/11/2023	Opus Energy	Christmas Tree & Lighting 1 Oct 23 - 31 Oct 23	DD	25.21	
27/11/2023	Waterlogic	Watercooler rental	DD	38.76	
<b>PAYMENT FROM RESERVE ACCOUNT</b>					
20/11/2023	Current account	Transfer to Lloyds current account		50,000.00	
<b>PAYMENT FROM STRIPE ACCOUNT</b>					
01/10/2023	Stripe	Stripe fee		0.42	
08/10/2023	Stripe	Stripe fee		0.42	
08/10/2023	Stripe	Stripe fee		0.42	
08/10/2023	Stripe	Transfer to Lloyds current account		5.58	
16/10/2023	Stripe	Transfer to Lloyds current account		11.16	

**LYDD TOWN COUNCIL**
**PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS**
**1 October - 30 November 2023**
**FOR RATIFICATION AND AUTHORISATION**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Ratification</b>	<b>Memo</b>	<b>Chq no/DD</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>RECEIPTS INTO CURRENT ACCOUNT</b>				
02/10/2023	Banking	Allotments Rent and Deposits		40.00
02/10/2023	Banking	Allotments Rent and Deposits		20.00
05/10/2023	Banking	Allotments Rent and Deposits		20.00
06/10/2023	Banking	Allotments Rent and Deposits		20.00
06/10/2023	Banking	Allotments Rent and Deposits		80.00
06/10/2023	Banking	Allotments Rent and Deposits		80.00
08/10/2023	Stripe	Transfer from Stripe		5.58
12/10/2023	Banking	Allotments Rent and Deposits		40.00
16/10/2023	Stripe	Transfer from Stripe		11.16
17/10/2023	Banking	Allotments Rent and Deposits		480.00
17/10/2023	Banking	Allotments Rent and Deposits		500.00
17/10/2023	Banking	Allotments Rent and Deposits		320.00
18/10/2023	Banking	Allotments Rent and Deposits		160.00
19/10/2023	Hythe Town Council	Mayoral Allowance - re Kart Circuit		100.00
20/10/2023	Gurkha Concert	Band Concert income		40.00
25/10/2023	Allotments	Allotments Rent and Deposits		40.00
25/10/2023	Allotments	Allotments Rent and Deposits		440.00
25/10/2023	Gurkha Concert	Band Concert income		40.00
27/10/2023	Gurkha Concert	Band Concert income		30.00
27/10/2023	Gurkha Concert	Band Concert income		50.00
27/10/2023	HMRC VAT	VAT refund - QE 30 September 2023		1,724.35
03/11/2023	MBC AccPay	Band Concert income		25.00
07/11/2023	Folkstn Coun Folkestone TC	Band Concert income		30.00
09/11/2023	Allotments	Allotments Rent and Deposits		40.00
09/11/2023	Winchelsea Council	Band Concert income		50.00
09/11/2023	Banking	Band Concert income		450.00
15/11/2023	NHS	Ambulance Service Rent		5,200.00
15/11/2023	Faversham Town Council	Band Concert income		20.00
20/11/2023	Patricia Edwards	Band Concert income		40.00
20/11/2023	Reserve account	Transfer to Lloyds reserve account		50,000.00
27/11/2023	Rye Town Council	Band Concert income		30.00
<b>RECEIPTS INTO RESERVE ACCOUNT</b>				
09/10/2023	Lloyds Bank	Reserve account interest		70.48
09/11/2023	Lloyds Bank	Reserve account interest		84.61
<b>RECEIPTS INTO STRIPE ACCOUNT</b>				
01/10/2023	The Banks, Tennis Courts	Court booking		6.00
08/10/2023	The Banks, Tennis Courts	Court booking		6.00
08/10/2023	The Banks, Tennis Courts	Court booking		6.00



**LYDD TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Bank Reconciliation Statement**  
**for the Period Ending**  
**30th November 2023**

<b>BANK and CASH:</b>	Statement Date	£	
Lloyds TSB Current Account	30-Nov	115,332.26	
Lloyds TSB Reserve Account	30-Nov	26,713.76	
Stripe	30-Nov	<u>-</u>	142,046.02
<b>LESS Unpresented Items:</b>			
	004698	25/09/2023	106.50
	004713	09/10/2023	30.00
	004741	13/11/2023	1,561.46
	004742	13/11/2023	<u>1,603.10</u>
			3,301.06
			<u><u>138,744.96</u></u>
Opening balance			159,600.06
<b>Cheques incorrectly recorded on previous bank rec:</b>			
	004670	01/08/2023	20.00
	<i>should have been</i>		(50.00)
	004671	01/08/2023	367.50
	<i>should have been</i>		<u>(367.00)</u>
			(29.50)
PLUS Receipts			60,299.18
LESS Payments			<u>(81,124.78)</u>
Balance Carried Forward:			<u><u>138,744.96</u></u>

Lydd Town Council					
Budget Monitor 2023-2024					
Period from 1 April 2023 to 30 November 2023					
	Actual	Budget	Over Budget	% of Budget	P/y actual
<b>Income</b>					
Precept	159,000.00	159,223.48	(223.48)	99.86%	130,000.00
Tennis Court Bookings	221.68	-	221.68	0.00%	-
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>159,221.68</b>	<b>159,223.48</b>	<b>(1.80)</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>130,000.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
Accountancy	4,450.00	-	4,450.00	0.00%	-
Allotments	1,687.83	3,200.00	(1,512.17)	52.74%	4,505.58
Audit	840.00	700.00	140.00	120.00%	490.00
Band Concert expenses	282.29	500.00	(217.71)	56.46%	3,242.80
Bank Charges	209.60	340.00	(130.40)	61.65%	318.75
Banks Dennis Lane	211.82	3,000.00	(2,788.18)	7.06%	3,693.41
Bin Emptying	-	665.00	(665.00)	0.00%	-
CCTV feasibility study	100.00	500.00	(400.00)	20.00%	-
Christmas Tree & Lighting	424.63	200.00	224.63	212.32%	1,383.91
Civic Expenses	1,573.87	200.00	1,373.87	786.94%	1,130.36
Contingency	715.00	-	715.00	0.00%	-
Coronation of King Charles III	1,517.02	3,000.00	(1,482.98)	50.57%	-
Donations	360.00	2,000.00	(1,640.00)	18.00%	-
Election Costs	6,428.25	-	6,428.25	0.00%	-
Electrical PEAT testing	-	150.00	(150.00)	0.00%	-
Friends of Lydd	-	500.00	(500.00)	0.00%	-
Grounds Maintenance	4,672.77	5,000.00	(327.23)	93.46%	5,827.43
Groundsman Materials and Equipment	(308.94)	400.00	(708.94)	(77.24%)	579.43
Guild Hall Maintenance	660.00	2,500.00	(1,840.00)	26.40%	3,714.78
Guild Hall Running Costs	5,511.97	9,000.00	(3,488.03)	61.24%	8,753.03
Hon. Freeman	-	-	-	0.00%	1,270.04
Insurance	4,237.54	4,500.00	(262.46)	94.17%	4,377.86
Lade Bench Licences	25.00	25.00	-	100.00%	25.00
Legal and Professional Fees	1,183.50	700.00	483.50	169.07%	2,489.80
Lydd in Bloom	470.00	550.00	(80.00)	85.45%	552.59
Lydd in Lights	-	550.00	(550.00)	0.00%	388.95
Manor Road Pavilion Maintenance	806.33	1,000.00	(193.67)	80.63%	338.95
Manor Road Pavilion Running Costs	469.80	600.00	(130.20)	78.30%	1,613.73
Mayoral Allowance	2,228.96	3,000.00	(771.04)	74.30%	1,183.24
Office Consumables	991.33	1,500.00	(508.67)	66.09%	2,036.79
Office Equipment and printing	1,276.83	1,000.00	276.83	127.68%	2,018.92
Office IT	9,014.81	4,000.00	5,014.81	225.37%	4,427.43
Queen's Platinum Jubilee	-	-	-	0.00%	9,210.30
Recreational Projects (Tennis Courts)	38,458.93	-	38,458.93	0.00%	7,236.00
Remembrance Sunday (S137)	-	290.00	(290.00)	0.00%	291.30
Type play project phase 2	-	30,000.00	(30,000.00)	0.00%	54,071.84
Small Grants awarded from Municipal Charities donation	-	3,000.00	(3,000.00)	0.00%	4,895.00
Staff & Councillors Training	-	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	0.00%	-
Staff Pensions (EE + ER)	14,782.34	16,000.00	(1,217.66)	92.39%	16,342.06
Staff Salaries	55,187.53	94,500.00	(39,312.47)	58.40%	82,708.08
Stair Lift Maintenance & Defib	618.00	600.00	18.00	103.00%	4,037.00
Subscriptions	2,122.00	2,100.00	22.00	101.05%	1,711.00
Survey and schedule of work for buildings	3,100.00	3,100.00	-	100.00%	-
Website	-	500.00	(500.00)	0.00%	65.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>164,309.01</b>	<b>200,370.00</b>	<b>(36,060.99)</b>	<b>82.00%</b>	<b>234,930.36</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>(5,087.33)</b>	<b>(41,146.52)</b>	<b>36,059.19</b>	<b>12.36%</b>	<b>(104,930.36)</b>
<b>Other Income</b>					
Allotments Rent and Deposits	7,667.29	4,000.00	3,667.29	191.68%	4,002.52
Ambulance Service Rent	5,200.00	5,200.00	-	100.00%	-
Bank Interest	475.23	25.00	450.23	1900.92%	144.37
Donations from Lydd Municipal and Other Charities	-	5,000.00	(5,000.00)	0.00%	5,000.00
Hasts and Easements	1.00	1,600.00	(1,599.00)	0.06%	78.08
Other Receipts	939.61	3,001.00	(2,061.39)	31.31%	10,197.89
Band Concert	805.00	-	805.00	0.00%	2,223.52
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>15,088.13</b>	<b>18,826.00</b>	<b>(3,737.87)</b>	<b>80.15%</b>	<b>21,646.38</b>
<b>Other Expenses</b>					
HMRC Interest	129.44	-	129.44	0.00%	-
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>129.44</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>129.44</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>14,958.69</b>	<b>18,826.00</b>	<b>(3,867.31)</b>	<b>79.48%</b>	<b>21,646.38</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>9,871.36</b>	<b>(22,320.52)</b>	<b>32,191.88</b>	<b>(44.23%)</b>	<b>(83,283.98)</b>

## **LYDD TOWN COUNCIL STATEMENT OF INTERNAL CONTROL**

### **1. Scope of responsibility**

Lydd Town Council is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively.

In discharging this overall responsibility, the Council is responsible for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control which includes management of risk.

### **2. Purpose of the system of internal control**

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness.

The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Council's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

### **3. The internal control environment**

The key elements of the Council's internal control environment include:

- Established budget setting and regular budgetary monitoring reporting to members
- .NALC Standing Orders and Financial Regulations adopted and reviewed
- .Terms of Reference for Committees with responsibility for decisions which include expenditure where exceeding agreed budget limits being referred to Council.
- Code of conduct for members that set out clear expectations for standards of their behaviour
- Internal audit carried out at least annually
- Cheques signed by two councillors and stubs initialled and checked against invoices.

### **4. Policies and Procedures**

- The Council will ensure that it develops and adopts relevant policies and procedures to ensure that as far as is possible all responsibilities of the Council are understood.
- The Council will ensure that risk assessments are in place

### **5. Financial management**

In financial matters the Council and its internal auditor are guided primarily by Financial Regulations and Guidance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England.

Internal financial control is based on a framework of management information, financial and administrative procedures.

The Council's principal financial control is that payments drawn on its bank accounts must be authorised by two members and that cheques must be signed by two signatories who are on the bank mandate and therefore authorised to do so.

The main purpose of the independent internal audit is to review whether the systems of financial and other controls are both adequate and effective and to make recommendations if appropriate.

#### **6. Review of effectiveness**

The Council has responsibility for conducting, at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control and of the system of internal audit. The review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by the work of the internal auditors and Town clerk/RFO and also by comments made by the external auditors.

January 2024

**LYDD TOWN COUNCIL  
INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2024-25**

**BASIC CHECK LIST**

**a) The Annual Return**

- Is there a Minute showing that the Council has formally approved the end of year accounting statements?
- Has the Council given members of the public the opportunity to inspect and raise questions on the accounts?
- Has the Council approved the Annual Return by the specified date as specified by the external auditor currently Mazars
- Have significant variances in the Annual Return figures been explained?

**b) Year-end controls**

- Have year-end accounts been prepared on the correct basis, agreed with the cash book, are supported by an adequate audit trail from underlying records, and debtors and creditors properly recorded?

**c) Budgetary process and controls**

- Is there an adequate process for determining and approving the budget by full Council?
- Is there a minute recording the adoption of the budget?
- Is there a minute recording the precept setting and is it in line with the approved budget?
- Have earmarked reserves been allocated and are they at appropriate levels?
- Is progress against the budget regularly monitored and variations approved as appropriate?

**c) Proper book-keeping**

- Have appropriate records of accounts been properly kept – and are they accurate and up-to-date?

**d) Payment controls**

- Do Members regularly see a complete list of payees?
- Does all expenditure agree with the budget, Council decisions/authorisation or delegated authorisation?
- Are payments in the cash book supported by invoices?
- Do two councillors sign all cheques for payment?
- Is VAT correct in the cash book, linked to invoices, and been reclaimed?
- Is any S137 expenditure identified separately in the cash book and within the prevailing statutory limit?
- Has the Council acted lawfully in its decision making and not exceeded its powers?

**e) Income controls**

- Has scheduled income (precept, grants, fee income etc) been fully received, based on correct fees (where relevant), properly recorded and promptly banked?
- Has other income been properly recorded and promptly banked?
- Are security controls over petty cash and 'near cash' (e.g. stamps) adequate and effective?

**f) Bank reconciliations**

- Are all bank statements available?
- Are bank reconciliations carried out regularly?
- Are there any unexplained entries in any reconciliation?

**g) Payroll controls**

- Do salaries paid agree with the pay scales approved by the Personnel Committee?
- Are tax, National Insurance and pension requirements properly applied?

**h) Asset controls**

- Is the Assets Register up-to-date?

**j) Reviews**

- Has the Council reviewed its statement of Internal Control?

**k) Improvements**

- Has the Council acted on any recommendations made by the internal or external auditor?

January 2024

**LYDD TOWN COUNCIL  
INTERNAL AUDITOR TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**BACKGROUND & CONTEXT**

Local councils have a duty, under the Accounts and Audit Regulations to maintain an adequate and effective system of internal audit of their accounting records and of their systems of internal control in accordance with the proper practices in relation to internal control.

The internal auditor will carry out their review at least annually and will satisfy the principles of independence and competence.

The Council will receive a report from the Internal Auditor and review the effectiveness of its system of internal audit. The Council will consider, at an appropriate meeting, the findings of the review and incorporate them within its relevant financial procedures. The Council will adopt Financial Regulations from the NALC model.

**OVERALL PURPOSE OF THE INTERNAL AUDIT**

- . Generally: to review the Council's accounting procedures and controls and report on their compliance with the Accounts & Audit Regulations
- . To test and report (in writing) to the Council on whether its financial controls are adequate and effective, identifying any areas of weakness or concern
- . To assist the Council in fulfilling its responsibility to maintain arrangements for the prevention and detection of fraud or error
- . To suggest areas for improvement
- . To complete the Annual Internal Audit Report (part of the Annual Return)

**SCOPE OF THE AUDIT**

In pursuance of the above the internal auditor shall be guided by the relevant legislation and financial regulations pertaining to the sector, the latest NALC/SLCC *Practitioner's Guide (England)*, best practice, and the Council's Internal Audit Plan - the content of which shall be agreed by both the internal auditor and the Council annually.

January 2024

LYDD TOWN COUNCIL                      AGREED BUDGET 2024-25                      COUNCIL 6TH NOVEMBER 2023

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
DETAILS OF ITEM OF RECEIPT OR PAYMENT	Year 2023-23 Audited actual	Year 2023-24 Agreed Budget	Year 2023-24 Actual Apr to Sept 23	Year 2023-24 Projected to Mar-24	Year 2024-25 DRAFT Budget	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
<b>RECEIPTS:</b>						
1. Abstract plot rent including water and Arqvia for most	4,072.00	4,000.00	3,387.00	6,200.00	6,000.00	1
2. Ambulance Senior Rem	0.00	0,200.00		9,700.00	5,200.00	
3. Band Concert	2,223.92			2,500.00	2,500.00	2
4. Bank Interest	144.37	25.00	320.00	500.00	500.00	
5. Donations from Lydd Municipal and other Charities	5,000.00	5,000.00		5,000.00	5,000.00	3
6. Mayor Road Pavilion Hire	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	
7. Meets and Exercises	76.88	1,600.00		78.00	80.00	
8. Tennis court bookings via slope			297.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
9. Other Receipts	11,132.86	3,001.00	8,947.00		0.00	
10. Grant	130,080.00	140,273.46	146,000.00	139,000.00	178,368.00	
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>146,180.00</b>	<b>290,278.96</b>	<b>171,661.00</b>	<b>345,378.00</b>	<b>291,158.00</b>	
<b>PAYMENTS:</b>						
11. Accountancy			4450.00	8000.00	6,000.00	
12. Advances	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
13. Allocations	4,506.50	3,200.00	1,828.00	3,800.00	3,000.00	4
14. Audit	480.00	700.00	999.00	999.00	1,000.00	
15. Band Concert	3,240.80	800.00	782.00	2,000.00	2,500.00	5
16. Bank Charges	218.75	348.00	105.00	300.00	325.00	
17. Banns Deeds Late	3,095.41	3,000.00	212.00	4,000.00	1,000.00	6
18. Bin Emptying	0.00	950.00	0.00	665.00	665.00	
19. CCTV feasibility study	0.00	500.00	100.00	180.00	0.00	
20. Christmas Trees & Lighting	1,383.81	200.00	180.00	1,700.00	1,000.00	
21. Civic Expenses	1,130.86	200.00	833.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
22. Election Costs	0.00	0.00	6,426.00	6,426.00	0.00	
23. Gas and electrical testing	0.00	150.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
24. Ground Maintenance	5,827.45	8,000.00	3,346.00	4,980.00	5,000.00	
25. Groundwater Materials and Equipment	-40.40	400.00	560.00	700.00	600.00	
26. Guild Hall maintenance	3,714.78	2,500.00	308.00	6,000.00	19,600.00	7
27. Guildhall Farming Costs	6,880.47	8,000.00	4,270.00	6,580.00	8,000.00	
28. Hon. Freeman	1,270.94	0.00	941.00	941.00	0.00	
29. Insurance	4,277.86	4,500.00	3,884.00	4,054.00	4,100.00	
30. Late Bench Licences	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	
31. Legal & Professional Fees	3,458.00	700.00	400.00	1,000.00	4,000.00	
32. Lydd in Bloom	552.59	500.00		500.00	380.00	
33. Lydd in Lights	368.25	500.00	0.00	400.00	380.00	
34. Mayor Road Pavilion Maintenance	218.86	1,000.00	808.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
35. Mayor Road Pavilion Farming Costs	1,813.73	600.00	598.00	400.00	450.00	
36. Mayor Allowance	1,393.24	3,000.00	1,765.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	
37. Office Consumables	2,826.73	1,500.00	462.00	600.00	1,000.00	
38. Office Equipment and Printing	2,194.90	1,000.00	1,162.00	2,328.00	2,290.00	
39. Office IT	4,427.43	4,000.00	7,778.00	8,000.00	4,820.00	
40. Office IT Capital expenditure			1,240.00	1,340.00	1,730.00	
41. Queen's Platinum Jubilee	6,219.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
42. Pierebentzoon Sunday 5/17	201.30	280.00	368.00	368.00	330.00	
43. Rype play project phase 1	84,271.84	47,945.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
44. Rype play project phase 2	0.00	30,000.00		46,251.00	0.00	
45. Rype play project phase 3				0.00	0.00	8
46. Small grants and donation to Club Day and Training from Municipal Charities Funds	4,896.00	3,000.00	0.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	9
47. Staff expenses	225.16			300.00	190.00	
48. Staff pensions SE and SR	16,342.08	16,000.00	8,843.00	30,000.00	20,000.00	10
49. Staff salaries	80,824.00	84,000.00	46,394.00	80,000.00	84,000.00	11,48,23 Personal
50. Stair Lift Maintenance & Calls	580.00		585.00	700.00	690.00	
51. Stair Lift Replacement	3,499.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
52. Staff and Councillors Training	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00	1,000.00	
53. Subscriptions	1,711.00	2,100.00	2,122.00	2,122.00	2,200.00	
54. Surveys and schedule of work for buildings	0.00	3,100	3,100.00	3,100.00	0.00	
55. Tennis courts	7,286.00	0.00	36,780.00	36,780.00	800.00	
56. Website	80.00	800.00	0.00	500.00	600.00	
57. Donation of King Charles III	0.00	3,000.00	1,517.00	1,517.00	0.00	
58. 1/2 Day Town council beacon lighting event				0.00	2,000.00	11
59. VAT	18,963.00					
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>261,494</b>	<b>280,370.86</b>	<b>136,687.00</b>	<b>270,764.00</b>	<b>271,860.00</b>	
<b>Financial Note: general reserves to be made November 2023 to cover projected expenditure £50,000</b>						



LYDD TOWN COUNCIL

JANUARY 2024

BRIEFING NOTE PRECEPT SETTING AND COUNCIL TAX BASE

**PRECEPTS TO TOWN / PARISHES 2024/25**

The draft budget considered at the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023 meeting was agreed by Council without any amendments and the final version circulated with the agenda paperwork for the meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 for formal adoption and for the precept setting.

Folkestone and Hythe District Council will require notification of the final 2024/25 precept amounts by 31 January 2024 at the latest. It is important to adhere to this timetable as our response forms part of the overall budget approval proposals presented to the subsequent Cabinet and full council FHDC meetings in February 2024.

Formal Council approval for the tax bases by FHDC is scheduled for 22 February 2023 and the draft tax base for Lydd is 2,187.85

As agreed at the November Council meeting the budget amount to meet current committed expenditure for 2023-24 is £ 201,180.00  
Expected receipts are £22,280. This means that the balance required to be considered for the precept request is **£178,900.00**

A precept request of £178,900 with a tax base of 2,187.85 would give a draft Band D of £81.77

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

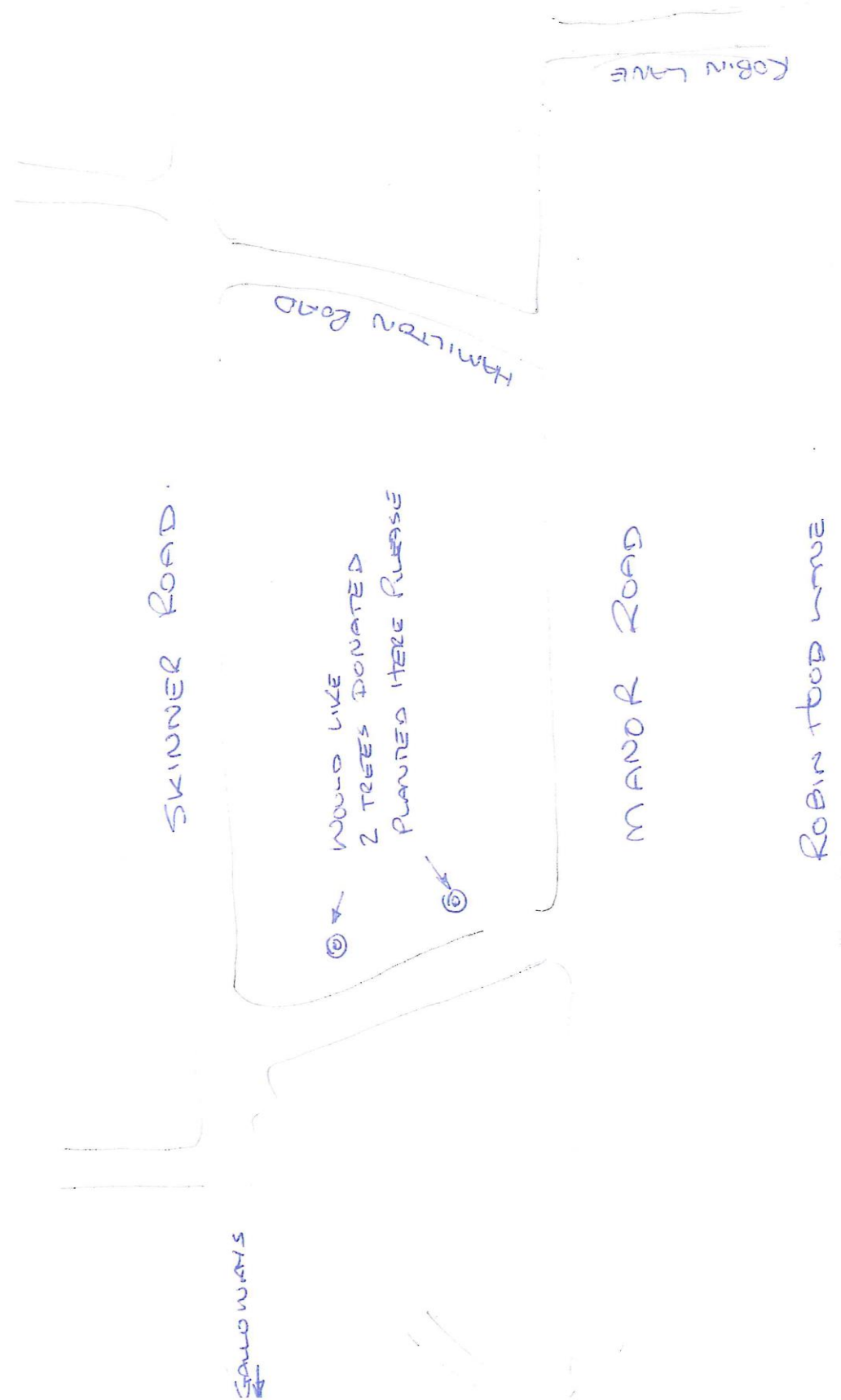
TO LYDD TOWN CLERK  
ANGELA ALEXANDER

6.11.2023

Ref our conversation regarding my request  
to have 2 TREES planted on West end of B  
please find attached sketch of where  
I would like them planted, hope this  
meets Council approval.

Thanks for your help.

[REDACTED]





# Kent Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

## 2024 – 2034

**Consultation Draft**

**November 2023**

## Consultation

### Have your say

We would like to hear your views on our draft Kent Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2024 - 2034 which sets out how local flood risk will be managed in the county by the risk management authorities involved.

Your feedback is important in helping us to ensure we have set a suitably ambitious, but achievable strategy; one which meets the needs and expectations of Kent residents.

The consultation will be open from 22 November 2023 to 30 January 2024. Please visit [www.kent.gov.uk/localfloodrisk](http://www.kent.gov.uk/localfloodrisk) to complete the online questionnaire.

If you have any questions regarding the draft Kent Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2024 - 2034, please email [flood@kent.gov.uk](mailto:flood@kent.gov.uk) using the reference 'Kent Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Consultation'.

### What happens next?

Following the end of the consultation, a report will be produced to summarise feedback received. This feedback will be used to help finalise the strategy which, alongside the consultation report, will be presented to the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee before the strategy is agreed and adopted.

### Alternative formats

Large print versions of the strategy and the consultation questionnaire are available from the consultation webpage or on request.

If you require any of the documents in any other alternative formats or language, please email [alternativeformats@kent.gov.uk](mailto:alternativeformats@kent.gov.uk) or call 03000 42 15 53 (text relay service number: 18001 03000 42 15 53). This number goes to an answering machine which is monitored during office hours.

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# 1 Introduction

Kent County Council (KCC) is the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) for Kent. As the LLFA, we have an overview role for local flooding, which is flooding that arises from these sources:

- Surface runoff
- Ordinary watercourses
- Groundwater

One of our duties as the LLFA is to develop, maintain, apply, and monitor a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (Local Strategy) that sets out how we will propose to manage these flood risks.

Local flooding is generally more localised than flooding from rivers and the sea, and managing it often relies on several systems working together effectively; especially drainage networks, sewers, and ordinary watercourses. These systems are often managed by different authorities, so cooperation and integrated planning are required from these authorities to manage local flooding effectively, which this Local Strategy aims to support.

This is the third Local Strategy that KCC has adopted, it will build upon the lessons we have learned from past Local Strategies (see Section 5). It has been developed in partnership with the other risk management authorities in Kent and other stakeholders to help us to work together and continue to reduce local flood risks, to develop our understanding of flood risk and to further improve our working relationships with partners and communities. It also reflects the Environment Agency's [National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England](#).

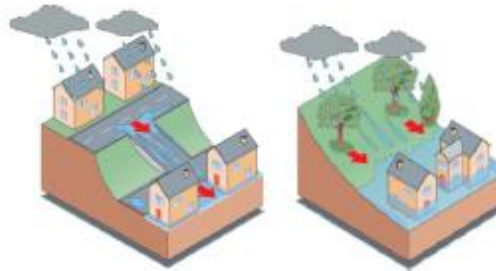
The Local Strategy sets out the flood risk in the county, the roles and responsibilities of risk management authorities operating in the county, the aims and objectives of the strategy, progress and ongoing challenges since the previous Local Strategy, and how we will deliver and monitor it.

## 2 Flood Risk

### 2.1 Sources of flood risk

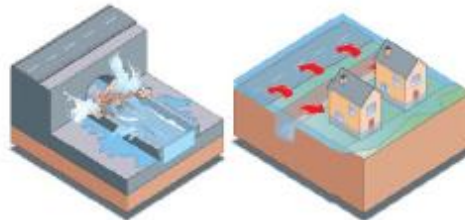
#### Surface water

Flooding occurs when the rate of rainfall is higher than the rate at which water can drain into the ground or enter a drainage system, creating runoff, running downhill, and pooling in low points.



#### Main river and ordinary watercourses (fluvial)

There are two categories of watercourse: main rivers (those that present the greatest risk to life and property) and ordinary watercourses (which covers all other watercourses, such as streams and ditches). Floods occur when the water flowing in a watercourse (which may be culverted), exceeds the capacity of the channel and goes over its banks. The capacity of the watercourse may be reduced by blockages and debris in the channel.



#### Sewers (including foul sewers)

Floods occur when the sewerage system fails due to blockages or is overwhelmed by surface water.





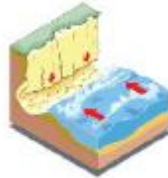
### Groundwater

Floods may occur when water stored in the ground rises to the surface. This is most likely in areas with porous underlying rock (such as, chalk).



### Coastal erosion

Flooding can occur when the coastline is eroded by the action of the sea, leading to land loss. Whilst coastal protection works are not the same as coastal flood defences, they can contribute to the effectiveness of flood defence along a shoreline.



### Coastlines

Flooding occurs when the coastline and/or coastal flood defences are either overwhelmed or breached by high tides or a storm surge.



### Reservoirs

Reservoir flooding is extremely unlikely. When the amount of water entering the reservoir is greater than the amount being discharged, water may overtop the reservoir and flow downstream (some reservoirs are designed to manage excess flows in this way). Occasionally, a poorly designed reservoir structure can fail, releasing water.



## 2.2 Flood risk in Kent

**Kent has a resident population of over 1.5 million (2021 census).**

The county has a land area of 1,368 square miles and approximately 350 miles of coastline. Nine of Kent's districts and boroughs have a higher proportion of land within National Flood Zone 3<sup>1</sup> than the national average<sup>2</sup>. This presents unique flood risk management challenges.

Over 20,000 properties in Kent are estimated to be at risk of flooding from **surface water runoff**. Kent has one of the highest risks of surface water runoff of LLFAs in England. All areas in Kent are at some risk of surface water flooding, but risks tend to be concentrated in urban areas.

**Ordinary watercourses** (from small ditches to small rivers) are a significant source of flood risk in Kent. However, at present there is no national estimate of the risk from this source.

In Kent, there are many areas with numerous ordinary watercourses within a concentrated area. This is often because the watercourses play an important role in land drainage and for flood risk management in flat impermeable areas. Ordinary watercourses in locations with steep topography can also present significant flood risk to towns and villages.

**Groundwater** also presents a significant source of flooding in parts of Kent, due to large areas of permeable bedrock, such as the chalk aquifers of the North Downs (most notably along the Elham Valley, where the Nailbourne chalk stream flows when groundwater is high).

There are over 60,000 properties estimated to be at risk of flooding from **coastal and fluvial flooding** in Kent. Romney Marshes, Dartford, and Gravesend are at particular high risk of coastal and tidal flooding. To reduce this risk, the Environment Agency operate and manage flood defences in many coastal and tidal areas.

Further information about flood risk in Kent is available in the draft [Flood Risk to Communities](#) documents (currently excludes Dartford and Gravesham).

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<sup>1</sup> National Flood Zone 3 is defined by the Environment Agency as land having a 1 in 100 greater annual probability of river flooding or land having a 1 in 200 or greater annual probability of sea flooding. Flood Zone 3 also includes areas of land where water must flow or be stored in times of flood.

<sup>2</sup> [Land Use in Kent](#)

### 2.3 Development planning applications

New developments, such as housing, have the potential to increase flood risk<sup>3</sup>. Planning applications should set out how this is assessed and describe how any risks are mitigated.

As the LLFA, KCC is consulted on the surface water drainage aspects of all major planning<sup>4</sup> applications in the county. Our Drainage and Planning Policy can be obtained by emailing [suds.gov.uk](mailto:suds.gov.uk).

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<sup>3</sup> Guidance for new developments is set out in the [National Planning Policy Framework](#) and local policy documents (such as, Local Plans), that may include more localised planning guidance on flood risk.

<sup>4</sup> Major development is defined within Part 1, Article 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order 2015 ([‘major development’ definition](#)).

### 3 Roles and Responsibilities

Managing local flooding often relies on several systems working effectively; especially drainage networks, sewers, and ordinary watercourses which may be managed by different authorities. Bodies with flood risk management roles are known as risk management authorities, these include KCC, Environment Agency (EA), district and borough councils, internal drainage boards, water companies and sewerage companies. Cooperation and integrated planning are required from these authorities to manage local flooding effectively. A summary of the responsibilities of the different risk management authorities in Kent is set out in Table 1.

It is important to note that whilst risk management authorities manage flood risk, there is no duty on any of them to prevent flooding. Flooding is recognised as a natural phenomenon that cannot always be prevented. Risk management authorities exercise permissive powers to undertake flood risk management works, and they have access to funding to investigate and deliver flood risk management activities. In spending these funds, their work has to be cost effective and value to the taxpayer, they do not have an obligation to prevent all floods.

Table 1: Kent’s Risk Management Authorities and a summary of their responsibilities.

Risk Management Authority	Responsibilities
<p><b>Kent County Council: Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic overview of local flooding from ordinary watercourses, surface water and groundwater.</li> <li>• Investigate significant flood events within Kent in Section 19 reports, where five or more properties are internally flooded, critical infrastructure is affected, or the flood mechanism is complex.</li> <li>• Permissive powers to implement the Land Drainage Act (1991) and consent for works on ordinary watercourses.</li> <li>• Maintain an asset register.</li> <li>• Develop and maintain a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.</li> <li>• Statutory consultee role to provide technical advice and guidance on surface water drainage strategies, designs and maintenance arrangements put forward by developers for any new major development.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Kent County Council: Highway Authority</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance of highway drainage systems.</li> <li>• Emergency responders during flood events on the highway.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A local public authority that manages water levels, flood risk and land drainage within areas of special drainage need.</li> </ul>

Risk Management Authority	Responsibilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permissive powers to implement the Land Drainage Act (1991) and consent for works on ordinary watercourses.</li> <li>• Under their Byelaws they are also able to consent new surface and treated foul discharges into any ordinary watercourse within their Internal Drainage District as well as consent works within 8 metres of any ordinary watercourse designated as 'Adopted' by the Board.</li> </ul>
Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Managing flood risk from main rivers, seas, and reservoirs.</li> <li>• Strategic overview of all forms of flooding.</li> <li>• Provides a flood warning service.</li> </ul>
Water Companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removing and processing wastewater.</li> <li>• Manage leaks from clean water supplies and manage flooding from sewers.</li> </ul>
District and Borough Councils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead on coastal erosion (where they have a coastline).</li> <li>• Carry out works on ordinary watercourses.</li> <li>• Apply flood risk guidance in determining planning applications.</li> </ul>

## 4 Aim and Objectives

### 4.1 Aim

Through this Local Strategy for Kent, our aim is:

- to improve the safety and wellbeing of Kent's residents and the economy of Kent through appropriate local flood risk management.

To do this we will:

- work effectively with communities and partners, incorporate climate adaptation, and utilise natural processes to provide multiple benefits, where possible.

### 4.2 Objectives

After review of the previous Local Strategy (2017-2023), we want to continue to deliver our objectives: 'understanding flood risk', 'reduce the risk of flooding', 'resilient planning', and 'resilient communities'. Actions to support the delivery of these objectives were identified from the review, which are outlined below.

#### Objective 1: Understanding Flood Risk

Risk Management Authorities in Kent have a clear understanding of local flood risk mechanisms including risks resulting from climate change, and will share these with partners to create an evidence base for flood risk and climate adaptation.

To achieve this we will...

- improve communication and data sharing between risk management authorities following flood events
- continue to undertake Section 19 investigations of significant floods in Kent
- support the next round of water company Drainage and Wastewater Management Plans
- maintain the asset register and work with partners to understand opportunities to improve it
- include climate change assessments in flood risk investigations

#### Objective 2: Reduce the Risk of Flooding

To protect the people and businesses of Kent from flooding through the delivery of flood risk management projects and programmes using new or innovative techniques where appropriate.

To achieve this we will...

- deliver more schemes to reduce the risk of local flooding
- work with partners to co-deliver schemes
- support Southern Water's Clean Rivers and Seas Taskforce
- ensure multiple benefits are included in flood risk management schemes
- continue to provide advice on land drainage and riparian responsibilities

**Objective 3: Resilient Planning**

Development and infrastructure delivery in Kent takes an active role in flood risk management, taking opportunities to manage on-site and off-site flood risk.

To achieve this we will...

- continue to encourage and support planning applications to appropriately consider the delivery of Sustainable Drainage Systems and reduce flood risk where possible
- implement Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010
- work with local planning authorities to ensure local flood risk is considered in local plan making and opportunities to proactively reduce flood risk are included

**Objective 4: Resilient Communities**

Residents and businesses of Kent are able to better prepare, understand and manage their own flood risk as appropriate, by having access to relevant flood risk information and support from risk management authorities. Communities and individuals are empowered to act to protect themselves from flooding through individual efforts, partnerships and joint working.

To achieve this we will...

- improve communities' access to appropriate data and information to understand flood risk in their area
- support communities to establish and maintain Flood Action Groups
- continue to promote the voluntary role of flood warden within flood risk communities, in partnership with the Environment Agency
- encourage communities to prepare local flood plans

## 5 Progress since previous Local Strategy

### 5.1 Local Strategy 2017-2023

The 2017 Local Strategy included four objectives: 'Understanding Risk', 'Reducing the Risk of Flooding', 'Resilient Planning' and 'Resilient Communities'. We have reviewed the delivery of the previous Local Strategy under each of these objectives since 2017, to identify where we have made progress and where work is still required.

#### 5.1.1 Objective 1: Understanding risk

Drainage and Wastewater Management Plans have helped to improve our understanding of sewer flooding and how it is planned and invested in; which was an important gap at the time of the previous Local Strategy. Drainage and Wastewater Management Plans provide opportunities to work with sewerage undertakers to jointly manage surface water, and we hope that as these plans develop, collaborative opportunities will arise from them.

Our improved understanding of the economic benefits of schemes that we deliver, and the changes made by the Environment Agency to the funding rules, mean that we are expecting more schemes to be deliverable through partnership funding. In the previous Local Strategy, we had only developed one business case using these new rules, which has shown that it may provide more funding for the kind of schemes we need to deliver, and we will continue to develop more business cases with this.

Overall, there is improved understanding of joint risks, however, more can still be done to improve our understanding.

#### 5.1.2 Objective 2: Reducing the risk of flood

KCC has delivered more projects that reduce flood risk in the county, the projects we have delivered can be found [here](#). However, these projects have been fairly small scale and at the current rate of delivery there is no realistic prospect of significantly reducing the risk of surface water flooding at a countywide scale. There are several reasons for this, including resources for staff to project manage these schemes and capital to fund the delivery (see Sections 5.2.2 and 5.2.4).

The recent [National Infrastructure Committee](#) report of surface water has proposed an increase in funding and improved access to capital funding for LLFAs to achieve this. This report is very welcome, though we await the government's response.

The Drainage and Wastewater Management Plans and storm overflow requirements in the [Environment Act 2021](#) have increased focus on surface water management for wastewater management benefits. Sewerage undertakers are taking an increased interest in surface water management because of this Act, which has led to more significant partnership projects.



We have improved the delivery of natural flood management schemes since the last Local Strategy. Natural flood management techniques offer a relatively low-cost option to manage flood risk in rural areas, where landowners are willing to provide land and maintain them. These schemes are usually dependent on landowners being willing to adapt the use of their land. There have been improvements to landowner incentives which seek to compensate them for land given to natural flood management. There are also more initiatives to increase landowners' understanding of the benefits of nature-based solutions; but these have only recently been introduced and it is unclear if they will incentivise landowners to employ these measure. More incentives for landowners to adopt these measures are needed to increase their uptake.

Property flood resilience is a useful way to manage flood risk where there are no effective strategic options, but the resources required to administer these measures creates barriers for wider implementation.

We need to continue to work with partners to deliver local flood risk management at an increased scale.

#### **5.1.3 Objective 3: Resilient planning**

Sustainable drainage systems in new major developments are commonplace in Kent for managing surface water. KCC has conducted regular training workshops with developers to ensure sustainable drainage continues to be used effectively and are well-integrated into development. However, we cannot become complacent; we know further training is required for planners and developers. We also feel there is a need to encourage the use of more surface sustainable drainage features that provide multiple benefits.

A more strategic approach to flood risk management from new developments would be beneficial, where new developments actively reduce flood risk downstream. A change to planning policy is required to implement this on a wide scale, however, KCC will continue to encourage planning authorities and developers to consider wider flood risk management in planning.

#### **5.1.4 Objective 4: Resilient communities**

More communities have established Flood Action Groups, five new groups have been established, enabling local communities to engage more directly with risk management authorities. To further support Flood Action Groups, a Kent-wide group of Flood Action Groups has been established. We recognise there are still many communities and residents that have a need for an improved understanding of their flood risk. We acknowledge that there are gaps in residents' understanding of flood risk and drainage principles.

The voluntary role of flood wardens has had various levels of uptake from local communities. The EA had focused on increasing enrolment, which was met with some success. However, the main challenge is keeping flood wardens engaged over a long period of time and replacing those that leave the role.

## 5.2 Challenges

### 5.2.1 Scale of delivery

There is a significant level of surface water flood risk in Kent, at the present scale of delivery it is not possible to set a timeframe on when this will be well managed. The schemes we deliver are useful at managing flood risk in a local context, but they usually benefit a small number of properties, typically 12 or fewer and we are only able to deliver two or three of these a year. We need to increase the scale at which we can deliver schemes to be able to make a meaningful impact on surface water flood risk at a countywide scale. This requires more resources, which is often out of our control such as, land and funding (see Section 5.2.2). However, we can use opportunities to work more effectively with partners and encourage as many parties as possible to contribute to flood risk management.

In particular, the requirements for reducing combined sewer overflows in the [Environment Act 2021](#) present an opportunity to work with water companies to manage surface water more effectively. Water companies have identified that surface water in combined sewers is a significant cause of overflows; managing surface water more sustainably presents an opportunity to deliver multiple benefits.

Local Nature Recovery Strategies and biodiversity net gain present opportunities to integrate natural flood management and sustainable drainage with measures to deliver ecological improvements. These opportunities may not realise significant improvements of delivery, but they do present a further opportunity to deliver measures like this and to increase awareness of their benefits.

### 5.2.2 Funding

The delivery of flood risk management requires resources to manage projects and funding to pay for project delivery. More funding is required for both aspects in order to increase the delivery of flood risk management mitigation. The government has changed what it pays for in Flood Defence Grant in Aid so that surface water management schemes are easier to fund, which is welcome. However, funding is still provided for on a project-by-project basis, which increases the resources required to fund it and makes small projects difficult to fund.

Improved access to funding and more resources is necessary, unfortunately these are out of our control. The recent [National Infrastructure Commission \(NIC\) report on surface water flooding](#) highlighted similar issues and proposed solutions to improving this, which we support. We await the government's response to this report.

In the meantime, we will continue to make the most of the opportunities Flood Defence Grant in Aid provides us and work with partners to maximise opportunities to manage flood risk.

### 5.2.3 Climate Change

We are already seeing evidence of more frequent and more severe weather events. This is particularly significant for surface water flooding, as it results directly from intense rainfall. Surface water flooding is becoming both more common and more

severe, impacting both Kent's economy and people's mental health. Adaptation to climate change must include surface water alongside other climate risks.

At present there is no assessment of the impacts of climate change on surface water flood risk, so there is no way to quantify what the possible impacts are. The Environment Agency are producing an updated set of surface water flood maps that will include climate change scenarios, these are due to be published in 2024. We will review these when they are available.

In the meantime, we must continue to ensure we embed surface water management in climate adaptation plans and prioritise these when more data is available.

#### **5.2.4 Staff Resources**

The flood risk management profession is a relatively niche area that requires specific technical skills and training. It is currently under-resourced with multiple vacancies across the sector, in all risk management authorities, not just LLFAs. This makes increasing our capacity to deliver more activities difficult and puts pressure on us when we have vacancies. Increasing the attractiveness of the flood risk management sector is outside the scope of KCC, however we will try to broaden the appeal of our work to attract more entrants to our sector.

#### **5.2.5 Schedule 3**

The government has announced that it is planning to implement Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, which means LLFAs must adopt and maintain sustainable drainage in new developments. The adoption and maintenance of sustainable drainage is welcome; however, this process presents challenges to LLFAs, particularly county councils who do not own public open spaces where many sustainable drainage systems are located. Many of the details of how Schedule 3 will be implemented are yet to be determined at the time of drafting this strategy, so we cannot be certain exactly what further challenges we may face. However, implementing this new requirement will be of vital importance and presents an opportunity to promote the type of sustainable drainage we want to see in the county.

Significantly more staff resources will be required, which is a challenge in itself (see Section 5.2.4), as well as new processes and policies to manage this. We will work with the government and counterparts nationally to ensure that we are well prepared to implement this new requirement.

#### **5.2.6 Land use changes**

Major developments are required to consider the impacts on flooding as part of planning policy (see Section 5.1.3) and new requirements will improve this (see Section 5.2.5), however land use changes continue to increase flood risk. Planning permission is not required for many land use changes, and flood risk assessments are not required for all planning permissions, for instance minor developments.

The increased densification of urban areas, for instance through the paving of gardens, increases the risk of surface water flooding or runoff entering sewers. Diversifying land activities in rural areas, such as removing hedgerows and changing

the crops that are grown can change how surface water runs off the land, effecting flood risk.

Many of these land changes are permitted and there is often no requirement to assess or mitigate any increased flood risk. Changing this is beyond the scope of this strategy. However, we will continue to work with partners to raise awareness of the potential impacts of land use changes and encourage measures that do not increase flood risk.

#### **5.2.7 Integration**

Effective flood risk management will best be achieved through a more integrated approach, where only the most severe or extreme issues are dealt with through flood risk management projects. The general incorporation of flood risk management measures in all activities is a more efficient approach.

At present new developments are only required to consider how they increase flood risk and how to manage that. This often means that areas that might be useful for flood risk management to the wider area, cannot be realised (notwithstanding issues of funding and land ownership). An approach that requires new developments to reduce flood risk in the local area, irrespective of their impact on it, would make flood mitigation and climate adaptation easier.

An approach like this would require a change to national policy and is out of scope for this strategy. However, we will work with partners to explore opportunities to adopt a policy that proactively manages flood risk through new development.

## 6 Delivering the Local Strategy

KCC is the LLFA for Kent and responsible for this Local Strategy; however, delivering this strategy will rely on working with partners and stakeholders. It will also rely on resources, both finance and staff.

### 6.1 Partnerships

Kent County Council works closely with a variety of risk management authorities and partners, to reduce flood risk in Kent. We work with partners to deliver flood risk management in Kent by collaborating on projects, providing resources (such as funding), and sharing information. Details on the projects KCC have delivered with partners can be found on our [flood project webpage](#).

To ensure the risk management authorities are kept accountable, KCC hosts a Strategic Flood Risk Management Group was set up. This group holds regular meetings to provide updates, discuss challenges, and coordinate the allocation of resources among its members. They will have a role in overseeing the progress of the Local Strategy.

### 6.2 Flood risk management priorities

There are areas of Kent that we recognise as needing further investigation or intervention to manage flood risk. In the previous strategy, we identified priority areas for focus, and we made progress in these areas to varying degrees. These areas are still places we will continue to focus on; however, other areas were brought to our attention during the delivery of the previous strategy, and we have since directed resources to these areas too. This reflects the high level of flood risk in the county, with our priorities for flood risk management changing alongside our increased understanding of the risks and opportunities. The priorities of partners also influence our priorities for flood risk management. Given the length of time this Local Strategy spans, and the likelihood that new information and priorities will arise within this time, we have not identified specific areas to focus on.

This section sets out how we assess and prioritise flood risk management opportunities in the county:

#### 6.2.1 Section 19 investigations

Section 19 investigations are one of the main ways we identify new areas for further investigation. Under Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, Lead local flood authorities have a duty to undertake investigations for some incidents of flooding in their area. The purpose of a Section 19 investigation is to identify which risk management authorities have risk management functions in respect of the flood in question and whether they have exercised those functions; a report of the findings is then published. Our Section 19 investigations also set out the facts of the flood event and provide some background to the drainage in the area. They do not include modelling or assessments of options to manage flood risk, though they may highlight

opportunities for further investigation. KCC's Section 19 Investigations can be found [here](#).

### 6.2.2 Surface Water Management Plans

Surface Water Management Plans undertaken over relatively large areas to assess flood risks where we are aware of flood risk management issues and wish to assess these in detail. They may be used to provide an overview of flooding in a large area (for instance, a district or borough) to identify areas for further investigation. Or Surface Water Management Plans may be more localised (for instance, a town) to identify more specific flood risk management options. These plans are ultimately used to devise an action plan for reducing flood risk in the defined area.

More detailed investigations of flood risk management interventions are invigorating additional localised studies, although further investigations are required to develop flood risk management schemes. SWMPs also provide useful information for our planning consultee role. More information about SWMPs in Kent can be found [here](#).

### 6.2.3 Partners

Partner priorities may differ from KCC's, though this may still represent an important opportunity to realise our flood risk management objectives. KCC will continue to work with partners on flood risk management projects to help support the delivery of this Local Strategy.

## 6.3 Funding

The government has a grant fund for flood risk management works, known as Flood Defence Grant in Aid. This fund will pay towards flood risk management outcomes; however, this may not be enough to cover the full costs of the project. If this is the case, additional funding from partners must be found for the project to be undertaken, this scheme is called partnership funding. Partnership funding also provides funding for multiple benefits, including health and biodiversity benefits, though the flood risk management benefits must outweigh the costs of the project to be eligible for Flood Defence Grant in Aid. A business case must be prepared to receive partnership funding contributions, which sets out how the scheme is cost beneficial and how it will be financed.

KCC has allocated funding to surface water management works annually in the capital budget. This funding is for the delivery of projects to reduce local flood risks and support adaptation to the increased risks of local flooding from climate change. It can be used to provide partnership funding contributions to schemes to unlock government contributions and to fund smaller schemes where the cost of developing a business case is too high to justify.

KCC flood risk management projects need to demonstrate how they achieve multiple environmental and social benefits for Kent communities, whilst reducing flood risk to properties and businesses. They also need to demonstrate how they will be cost beneficial.

#### **6.4 Monitoring and review**

KCC will publish an annual summary of progress report on the delivery of the Local Strategy. Metrics that record the progress of the Local Strategy have been developed that will be reported on annually, these are set out in Appendix 1. We will also provide an overview of other activities that we will deliver that cannot be measured with metrics, these are also set out in Appendix 1.

The activities to support the delivery of the objectives and the metrics we report on will be reviewed annually and updated as needed, to ensure they remain relevant and useful in measuring the progress of the Local Strategy. Where appropriate new activities will be added and new metrics developed to report on. Changes to the activities and metrics will be agreed with the Kent Strategic Flood Risk Management Group.

## APPENDIX 1: Reporting progress

The annual report on the progress of the Local Strategy will include the metrics set out in Table A1-1, will also include a summary of the flood risk management activities set out in Table A1-2.

Table A1-1: Metrics used to measure activities of each objective within the Local Strategy.

Objective 1 Activities	Objective 1 Metrics
Section 19 reports published	Number of reports published Number of properties flooded in each event
Flood risk studies	Number of studies completed Number of studies with climate change impacts included
Asset register	Number of assets added to the asset register
Objective 2 Activities	Objective 2 Metrics
Flood risk management schemes delivered	Number of schemes Number of properties benefitting Scheme costs Partnership income
Schemes delivered as part of the Clean Rivers and Seas Taskforce	Number of schemes delivered
Land drainage advice	Number of land drainage consents issued Number of land drainage enquiries responded to
Objective 3 Activities	Objective 3 Metrics
Planning application consultations	Number of consultations Number of consultation responses provided in 21 days Number of sites disconnected from the foul/combined sewer Number of sites with a connection to the foul/combined sewer Reduction in discharge rate to the foul/combined sewer
Objective 4 Activities	Objective 4 Metrics
Flood Action Groups	Number of Flood Action Groups active in Kent Number of new Flood Action Groups established



Flood wardens	Number of flood wardens in Kent Number of people attending flood warden training
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Table A1-2: Flood risk management activities to be reported on each year, for the Local Strategy objectives.

<b>Objective 1 Activities</b>
Work to improve communication following a flood event
Work to improve the flood asset register
Multiple benefits delivered through flood risk management schemes
<b>Objective 3 Activities</b>
Progress on implementing Schedule 3
Additional local flood risk management benefits achieved through the local plan making process
<b>Objective 4 Activities</b>
Work to improve communities' access to flood risk data and information



**Tony Hills, Kent County Council member for the Romney Marsh Division. Report for January 24.**

***Wishing you all a Happy (and dry) New Year.***

What will 2024 bring for the Romney Marsh. As a unique area of Kent, (as I say closer to France than Maidstone). I believe we face some major challenges. Sea water quality is failing in Hythe Bay, we need to find out why, its complicated but this work has to be done. Surface water flooding is a problem this winter for many on the Marsh, with more extreme weather forecasted we need to improve our water management.

The 'Romney Marshes Area Internal Drainage Board do a great job working with the Environment Agency to move water around the Marsh, excess to the sea. But 'Climate Change' will increase the need to move more water faster to the sea. The rising water table will increase the pressure on our current systems.

**Marsh Highways. The winter service.**

We have already had salting of our important roads with some cold days in December. Below is what it costs KCC.

*"Our annual winter service budget is £3.7million. • If icy conditions or snow is expected, we will be salting about a third (30% - 2,586km) of the county's total carriageway (road) network which includes the A and B roads, major strategic, other strategic and locally important roads – these are termed Primary Routes. • The service is well planned. It does not cover motorways and trunk roads, which are salted by Highways England. • Kent County Council Highways Operations provides details in a media bulletin, as required, when crews are going out, giving details of where we are operating, how long for and how much salt is being laid. This will be included in the Kent Road Weather forecast issued to media. Salting routes are published online at [www.kent.gov.uk/highways](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highways), throughout the winter service"*

KCC continues to maintain our highways on a reduced budget. But remember safety comes first, so if you find what you consider to be dangerous, please report it.

<https://webapps.kent.gov.uk/KCC.KHSFaultsGIS.Web.Sites.Public/ReportAFault.aspx>

## **Flooding Matters**

I have my fingers firmly crossed that we have a dry back end of winter. Southern water has been spending a small fortune tankering water away from various locations across the Marsh.



With the heavy rains in December, we had surface water flooding all over the Marsh. The pictures above (Littlestone Sewer Arm and the Lydd Petty Sewer) show the problems we have getting water away. It was the same down at Dymchurch.

We need to improve how we move water on the Marsh I will try and set up a working party with the Environment Agency, Southern Water and the IDB to investigate.



## **Re-shingling**

Following storm Kerian our east bay beaches were stripped of shingle by the current and the storm action as it headed north.

The Environment Agency are planning to re-shingle the east bay frontage by the end of February.

## **Tony**

*Tony Hills, Kent County Councillor for Romney Marsh.* For details on how I will use your information please click [here](#) for my privacy notice.

Home Telephone 01797 321246 Mobile 07860 295730 .



## **CIVIC AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENTS 2023**

### **November 2023**

**The Town Mayor**  
**Cllr Bob Jones**

24<sup>th</sup>                      Tenterden – Lighting of the Christmas Tree  
**TS**

### **December 2023**

**The Town Mayor**  
**Cllr Bob Jones**

8<sup>th</sup>                      Gurkha Band Concert                      **TS**

13<sup>th</sup>                     Mayors Reception                              **TS**

14<sup>th</sup>                     Lydd in Lights Presentation                      **TS**