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09 September 2014

Dear Councillor

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at the meeting of the **DOVER JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD** on Thursday 11 September 2014 at 6.00 pm, the following report that was not listed on the agenda but which has now been made available by Kent County Council.

5 **HGV PARKING AT COOTING ROAD, AYLESHAM** (Pages 2 - 3)

To receive a written report on overnight lorry parking at Cooting Road, Aylesham.

Yours sincerely

Chief Executive

From: **Tim Read, Head of Transportation**

To: Environment, Highways & Waste Cabinet Committee

Date: **11th September 2014**

Subject: **Lorry Parking provision countywide and Cooting Road, Aylesham.**

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary:

This report gives an update on Lorry Parking in Kent and provides a summary of the actions agreed in relation to Lorry Parking issues on Cooting Road, Aylesham.

1.0 New Lorry Parking sites

KCC is currently working to identify a network of smaller scale overnight lorry parks that would also begin to cater for Operation Stack.

This work is at an early stage and further details will be released when available.

2.0 Freight Action Plan

Kent County Council has developed this Freight Action Plan with the aim to effectively address concerns with the movement of freight both through and within Kent. The Plan sets out the vision to:

"Promote safe and sustainable freight distribution networks into, out of and within Kent, which support local and national economic prosperity and quality of life, whilst working to address any negative impacts on local communities and the environment both now and in the future."

3.0 Lorry Watch

Since 2012 KCC have been operating a scheme called Lorry Watch in conjunction with Kent residents and the Police. The scheme helps residents to come together and tackle HGV drivers who use inappropriate roads. Volunteers gather information of offending vehicles which is then passed onto the Police. Repeat offenders are issued with a written warning and potentially further action. For more information please visit www.kent.gov.uk/lorrywatch for further information or to email freight@kent.gov.uk.

4.0 Freight Gateway

KCC hosts a lorry route mapping tool called the Freight Gateway which allows freight operators to plan their routes avoiding inappropriate route selection and potential difficulties. **http://freightgateway.co.uk/kent/**

5.0 Cooting Road

Due to safety reasons, a number of lay-by stops have been closed by the Highways Agency in recent weeks which were previously used by Lorry Drivers to park overnight. This has led to the drivers finding alternative parking and many have now moved to Cooting Road in Aylesham. This has led to anti-social behaviour and litter and the nearby residents have raised this concern to the Highways Agency, Dover District Council and Kent County Council.

The site has been assessed against the HGV framework aimed at tackling inappropriate lorry parking. The site was deemed serious enough to warrant intervention and an order has now raised for multi-lingual signage along the road warning drivers not to park there. This solution has been adopted in other situations and has worked well.

When the signs have been installed the effects will be monitored for a month and further action taken if necessary in line with the HGV framework.

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