

# AMENDED AGENDA

## REGENERATION AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING



Overview and Scrutiny

Date: Tuesday 14 April 2009  
Time: 6.30 pm  
Venue: Town Hall, High Street,  
Maidstone

Membership:

Councillors: Sherreard (Chairman), English (Vice-Chairman), Batt, Beerling, FitzGerald, Nelson-Gracie, Paine, Ross and Thick

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Page No.

1. **The Committee to consider whether all items on the agenda should be web-cast.**
2. **Apologies.**
3. **Notification of Substitute Members.**
4. **Notification of Visiting Members.**

**Continued Over/:**

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**Issued on 6 April 2009**

The reports included in Part I of this agenda can be made available in **alternative formats**. For further information about this service, or to arrange for special facilities to be provided at the meeting, **please contact Esther Bell on 01622 602463**.

To find out more about the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees, please visit [www.digitalmaidstone.co.uk/osc](http://www.digitalmaidstone.co.uk/osc)

**David Petford, Chief Executive, Maidstone Borough Council,  
Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone Kent ME15 6JQ**

**5. Disclosures by Members and Officers:**

- a) Disclosures of interest.
- b) Disclosures of lobbying.
- c) Disclosures of whipping.

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**6. To consider whether any items should be taken in private because of the possible disclosure of exempt information.**

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**7. Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 February 2009. 1 – 4**

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**8. Call-In: Park and Ride Establishment: 5 – 28**

Interview with:

- The Cabinet Member for Environment, Councillor Mark Wooding; and
- The Parking Services Manager, Mr Jeff Kitson

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**9. Cabinet Member for Environment: Progress During 2008/09: 29 – 34**

Interview with the Cabinet Member for Environment, Councillor Mark Wooding.

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**10. Cabinet Member for Regeneration: Progress During 2008/09: 35 – 42**

Interview with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Councillor Malcolm Greer.

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**11. Enforcement of Planning Conditions and Compliance with Section 106 Agreements Report.**

**Report to Follow.**

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**12. Road Safety Report.**

**Report to Follow.**

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**13. 2009/10 Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme. 43 – 44**

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**14. Amended Agenda Item: 45 – 56**

**Call-In: Park and Ride CCTV:**

Interview with:

- The Cabinet Member for Environment, Councillor Mark Wooding;
  - The Parking Services Manager, Mr Jeff Kitson; and
  - The Surveillance Controller, Mr Chris Stewart.
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**Part II**

**To move that the public be excluded for the item set out in Part II of the Agenda because of the likely disclosure of exempt information for the reason specified having applied the Public Interest Test**

**15. Amended Agenda Item:**

**Head of Schedule 12A  
and Brief Description**

**Exempt Appendix to the  
Report of the Assistant  
Director of  
Environmental Services –  
Park and Ride CCTV**

**Paragraph 3 –  
Financial/Business  
Affairs**

**57 - 58**

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## Maidstone Borough Council

### Regeneration and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday 14 April 2009

#### Call-In: Park and Ride CCTV

**Report of:** Overview and Scrutiny Officer

#### 1. **Background**

1.1. Councillors M Robertson and Daley have called-in the following decision of the Cabinet Member for Environment with regard to the Park and Ride CCTV:

- “1. That the procurement of cameras and equipment required to monitor all three Park and Ride sites be agreed.
2. That implementation will not be carried out until agreement on the decision in relation to the Park and Ride establishment.
3. That Council contract procurement rules requiring a formal tendering exercise be waived.
4. That the ic2 Security Specialists offer be progressed as soon as practicable to allow the enhancements in security to be implanted as soon as possible.”

1.2. In order to assist Members in their consideration of this issue the following documents have been attached to this agenda:

Document
Call-in Form
<i>Report for Decision: Park and Ride CCTV</i>
<i>Record of Decision of the Cabinet Member for Environment</i>

1.3. The Cabinet Member for Environment, Councillor Mark Wooding, the Parking Services Manager, Jeff Kitson and the Surveillance Controller, Mr Chris Stewart will be in attendance at the meeting for interview.

#### 2. **Recommendation**

2.1. The reasons for calling-in the Cabinet Member for Environment’s decision are stated as:

“A lack of empirical evidence to support the conclusions of this report”.

- 2.2. The Committee should consider the decision of the Cabinet Member for Environment against the above reason.
- 2.3. Having considered the call-in the Committee has three options for action:
- (i) **Take no action** – the decision will be implemented as taken by the Cabinet Member for Environment on 3 April 2009.
  - (ii) **Refer to the Cabinet Member for Environment** – the comments of the Committee will be referred to the Cabinet Member for Environment for reconsideration of the decision within five working days, after which a final decision will be made.
  - (iii) **Refer to Council** – the comments of the Committee and decision of the Cabinet Member for Environment will be referred to Council. If Council does not object to the Cabinet Member for Environment’s decision it will be implemented. If Council does object, it does not have power to make a decision unless the Cabinet Member for Environment’s decision is against the policy framework or contrary to or inconsistent with the budget. Unless that is the case, Council will refer its comments back to the Cabinet Member for Environment for reconsideration of the decision within five working days, after which a final decision will be made.

### **3. Reasons for Urgency**

- 3.1 Call-ins of Cabinet decisions must be heard within ten working days of the expiry of the call-in period. The completed call-in form was received by the Overview and Scrutiny Manager on 3 April 2009 and the call-in period expired on 14 April 2009. The Chair of the Regeneration and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee has agreed to take the call-in at the scheduled meeting of the Committee on 14 April 2009.

To: **Overview and Scrutiny Partnership Manager**

**CALL IN FORM**

I would like to call in the decision as detailed below:

Decision making body or individual

CABINET MEMBER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, Mr. Mark Wooding

Decision made

PARK & RIDE CCTV  
See Attached

Date decision made

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2009

Reason for calling in the decision

A lack of empirical evidence to support the conclusions of this report.

Desired Outcome

To delay the implementation of the decisions whilst the evidence is gathered and analysed allowing a considered view upon which a decision can be based.

Desired Witnesses

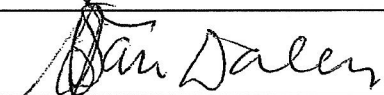
Mr Mark Wooding, Mr Jeff Kitzan, Mr. Chris Stewart

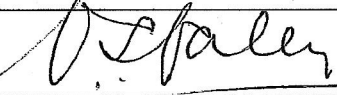
Members calling in decision

Signed

1. Malcolm Robertson

1. M B Robertson

2. 

2. 

Overview and Scrutiny Committee responsible for examining this decision

REGENERATION ..... Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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**MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT**

**REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

**Report prepared by J Kitson**

**Date Issued: 26<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

**1. Park & Ride CCTV**

1.1 Issue for Decision

1.1.1 To consider immediate installation of CCTV within each of the Park & Ride car parks to provide improved security and increased efficiency in site operations.

1.2 Recommendation of the Assistant Director of Environmental Services.

1.2.1 That approval be given to procure cameras and equipment required to monitor all three sites.

1.2.2 That Council contract procurement rules requiring a formal tendering exercise be waived.

1.2.3 That the ic2 Security Specialists offer be progressed as soon as practicable to allow the enhancements in security to be implemented as soon as possible.

1.3 Reasons for Recommendation

Background

1.3.1 The success of Park & Ride directly reduces the number of vehicles entering the town centre, leading to an improved local environment and reductions in vehicle emission levels.

1.3.2 Customers using the Park & Ride service expect a reasonable level of site security as their vehicle will be left unattended for the duration of their visit to Maidstone. CCTV will increase confidence and provide an alternative to current security arrangements.

- 1.3.3 The success of CCTV cameras in identifying potential problems is dependent on the pro-active attitude of the operators. Maidstone's CCTV operation is considered very effective by Maidstone Police and it has been agreed that the Park & Ride sites will be actively monitored during operating times.
- 1.3.4 Capital funding of £60,000 has been set aside to enhance the CCTV coverage at each Park & Ride site to improve site security and customer safety.
- 1.3.5 Enhanced CCTV coverage will also support the existing ParkMark accreditation by the British Parking Association and enable an alternative method of security to be introduced.
- 1.3.6 Cameras available from ic2 Security Specialists are fitted with speakers to deter criminal and antisocial activity within car parks. These systems have become very effective in reducing antisocial behaviour and have proven to be beneficial in raising customer awareness of criminal activity.
- 1.3.7 The system allows control room operators to challenge antisocial behaviour at the time they see it, by sending out a verbal warning directly to the offender.
- 1.3.8 It is anticipated that the introduction of CCTV within each of the Park & Ride sites will support changes in resourcing levels, offsetting the costs of the system.

#### System requirements

- 1.3.9 A site survey has identified camera locations at all three Park & Ride facilities. A total of 3 cameras will be required to provide a good level of coverage with wireless technology enabling the relocation of each unit as required from existing lamp columns and feed. Testing has confirmed that a repeater signal is possible from each Park & Ride site to the CCTV control room, however full signal testing should form part of the detail site survey prior to acquisition.

#### Costs

- 1.3.10 Information detailing costs are detailed within the exempt appendix to this report.

#### 1.4 Alternative Action and why not Recommended

- 1.4.1 To continue providing the current service without introducing CCTV will severely restrict monitoring levels of each car park. It is more efficient

to have coverage monitored by specialist teams within the CCTV control room at all times using the latest technology.

1.4.2 To increase the number of site attendants is not a cost effective way in providing Park & Ride services.

1.4.3 To progress a full competitive tender exercise for CCTV supply and installation will result in additional costs and result in a delay in raising the levels of security in each of the Park & Ride sites.

1.5 Impact on Corporate Objectives

1.5.1 Corporate objectives to improve access across the borough through better roads, public transport and services, directly relate to the services provided by Parking Services and the Park & Ride operation.

1.6 Risk Management

1.6.1 There is a risk that by not introducing CCTV or by delaying installation that improved security levels within each car park will be compromised. This will result in poor customer satisfaction ratings and potentially lead to reduced customer retention.

1.7 Other Implications

1.	Financial	X
2.	Staffing	
3.	Legal	
4.	Equality Impact Needs Assessment	
5.	Environmental/Sustainable Development	
6.	Community Safety	X
7.	Human Rights Act	
8.	Procurement	X

1.7.1 Financial

These figures have been based on initial quotation and investigation and could be subject to variation as market demands are difficult to predict in the current economic climate.

1.7.2 Community Safety

The Safer Maidstone Partnership continues to work to create a safe environment for everyone in the borough through a commitment to reduce crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour. The development of CCTV directly supports this initiative.

1.7.2 Procurement

If the Council contract procedure rules requiring formal tender are waived, then the ic2 Security Specialists offer can be progressed as soon as practicable to allow the enhancements in security to be implemented as soon as possible.

1.8 Background Documents

None

**NO REPORT WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT THIS BOX BEING COMPLETED**

Is this a Key Decision?      Yes            No     

If yes, when did it appear in the Forward Plan? \_\_\_\_\_

Is this an Urgent Key Decision?      Yes            No     

Reason for Urgency

**How to Comment**

Should you have any comments on the issue that is being considered please contact either the relevant Officer or the Member of the Executive who will be taking the decision.

CLlr Mark Wooding

Cabinet Member for Environment  
Telephone: 01622 602000  
E-mail: markwooding@maidstone.gov.uk

J Kitson

Parking Services Manager  
Telephone: 01622 602603  
E-mail: jeffkitson@maidstone.gov.uk

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**MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**RECORD OF DECISION OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR**  
**ENVIRONMENT**

Decision Made: 3 April 2009

**Park & Ride CCTV**

**Issue for Decision**

To consider immediate installation of CCTV within each of the Park & Ride car parks to provide improved security and increased efficiency in site operations.

**Decision Made**

1. That the procurement of cameras and equipment required to monitor all three Park & Ride sites be agreed.
2. That implementation will not be carried out until agreement on the decision in relation to the Park & Ride establishment.
3. That Council contract procurement rules requiring a formal tendering exercise be waived.
4. That the ic2 Security Specialists offer be progressed as soon as practicable to allow the enhancements in security to be implemented as soon as possible.

**Reasons for decision**

Background

The success of Park & Ride directly reduces the number of vehicles entering the town centre, leading to an improved local environment and reductions in vehicle emission levels.

Customers using the Park & Ride service expect a reasonable level of site security as their vehicle will be left unattended for the duration of their visit to Maidstone. CCTV will increase confidence and provide an alternative to current security arrangements.

The success of CCTV cameras in identifying potential problems is dependent on the pro-active attitude of the operators. Maidstone's CCTV operation is considered very effective by Maidstone Police and it has been agreed that the Park & Ride sites will be actively monitored during operating times.

Capital funding of £60,000 has been set aside to enhance the CCTV coverage at each Park & Ride site to improve site security and customer safety.

Enhanced CCTV coverage will also support the existing ParkMark accreditation by the British Parking Association and enable an alternative method of security to be introduced.

Cameras available from ic2 Security Specialists are fitted with speakers to deter criminal and antisocial activity within car parks. These systems have become very effective in reducing antisocial behaviour and have proven to be beneficial in raising customer awareness of criminal activity.

The system allows control room operators to challenge antisocial behaviour at the time they see it, by sending out a verbal warning directly to the offender.

It is anticipated that the introduction of CCTV within each of the Park & Ride sites will support changes in resourcing levels, offsetting the costs of the system.

#### System requirements

A site survey has identified camera locations at all three Park & Ride facilities. A total of 3 cameras will be required to provide a good level of coverage with wireless technology enabling the relocation of each unit as required from existing lamp columns and feed. Testing has confirmed that a repeater signal is possible from each Park & Ride site to the CCTV control room, however full signal testing should form part of the detail site survey prior to acquisition.

#### Costs

Information detailing costs are detailed within the exempt Appendix of the Report of the Assistant Director of Environmental Services.

#### **Alternatives considered and why rejected**

To continue providing the current service without introducing CCTV will severely restrict monitoring levels of each car park. It is more efficient to have coverage monitored by specialist teams within the CCTV control room at all times using the latest technology.

To increase the number of site attendants is not a cost effective way in providing Park & Ride services.

To progress a full competitive tender exercise for CCTV supply and installation will result in additional costs and result in a delay in raising the levels of security in each of the Park & Ride sites.

#### **Background Papers**

*None*

These documents are available at the Council offices.

Signed:   
Councillor Wooding  
Cabinet Member for Environment

Date: 08/04/2009

Should you be concerned about this decision and wish to call it in, please submit a call in form signed by any two Non-Executive Members to the Scrutiny Manager by:

**14 April 2009**



By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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