

MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

**FORWARD PLAN OF
KEY DECISIONS**

1 June 2009 –
30 September 2009

Councillor Christopher Garland
Leader of the Council



FORWARD PLAN

June 2009 – September 2009

INTRODUCTION

This is the Forward Plan which the Leader of the Council is required to prepare. Its purpose is to give advance notice of all the "key decisions" which the Executive is likely to take over the next 4 month period. The Plan will be updated monthly.

Each "key decision" is the subject of a separate entry in the Plan. The entries are arranged in date order – i.e. the "key decisions" likely to be taken during the first month of the 4 month period covered by the Plan appear first.

Each entry identifies, for that "key decision" –

- the subject matter of the decision
- a brief explanation of why it will be a "key decision"
- the date on which the decision is due to be taken
- who will be consulted before the decision is taken and the method of the consultation
- how and to whom representations (about the decision) can be made
- what reports/papers are, or will be, available for public inspection
- the wards to be affected by this decision

DEFINITION OF A KEY DECISION

A key decision is an executive decision which is likely to:

- Result in the Maidstone Borough Council incurring expenditure or making savings which is equal to the value of £250,000 or more; or
- Have significant effect on communities living or working in an area comprising one or more wards in Maidstone.

WHO MAKES DECISIONS?

The Cabinet collectively makes some of the decisions at a public meeting and individual portfolio holders make decisions following consultation with every member of the Council. In addition, Officers can make key decisions and an entry for each of these will be included in the Forward Plan.

WHO ARE THE CABINET?



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Councillor Brian Moss
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Councillor Malcolm Greer
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HOW CAN I CONTRIBUTE TO THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS?

The Council encourages and welcomes anyone wishing to express his or her views about decisions the Cabinet plans to make. This can be done by writing directly to the appropriate Officer or Cabinet Member (the details of which are shown for each decision to be made).

Alternatively, the Cabinet are contactable via our [website](#) where you can submit a question to the Leader of the Council or any Cabinet Member on-line. There is also the opportunity to invite the Leader of the Council to speak at a function you may be organising.

Cabinet Roadshows are held 3 times a year in different wards. This is an opportunity for you to meet the Cabinet Members direct and discuss any issues that may concern you.

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Title:	Landlords Accreditation Scheme
Portfolio:	Cabinet
This will be a "Key Decision" because:	Affects whole Borough
Purpose:	The introduction of a Landlord Accreditation Scheme for Maidstone as part of a wider Kent based scheme.
Decision Maker:	Cabinet
Proposed Date of Decision:	10 June 2009
Consultation and Method:	Consulted landlords by post and landlords forums
Representations should be made to:	John Littlemore, Housing Manager johnlittlemore@maidstone.gov.uk
Representations should be made by:	29 May 2009
Relevant documents:	London Landlords Accreditation scheme details Draft service level agreement
Wards affected:	All Wards
Other Information:	Swale Borough Council has been a lead authority in proposing a Kent wide Landlord Accreditation scheme. Maidstone along with others in Kent has been asked to participate in the scheme which will be very beneficial for MBC in supporting housing strategy key objectives.
Director:	Alison Broom, Director of Operations
Head of Service:	John Littlemore
Report Author:	Stuart White

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Title:	Local Development Scheme 2009: Submission to Secretary of State
Portfolio:	Cabinet
This will be a "Key Decision" because:	The Local Development Scheme sets the timetable for the production of LDF policy documents, which consequently has policy and budgetary implications
Purpose:	To approve the Local Development Scheme for submission to the Secretary of State, and to adopt the Local Development Scheme (subject to the Secretary of State's approval)
Decision Maker:	Cabinet
Proposed Date of Decision:	29 June 2009
Original proposed Date of Decision:	11 th February 2009
Reason for Delay:	Pending Member decisions on the direction of the Core Strategy, including the allocation or otherwise of land for strategic rail freight interchange. Decisions are required prior to confirming the timescales for the production of documents in the Local Development Scheme, which have implications for Housing & Planning Delivery Grant.
Consultation and Method:	LDDAG advice
Representations should be made to:	Sue Whiteside suewhiteside@maidstone.gov.uk
Representations should be made by:	1 June 2009
Relevant documents:	Local Development Scheme 2007
Wards affected:	Whole borough
Other Information:	Important to liaise with Government Office for the South East prior to submission to ensure acceptance of approach
Director:	Alison Broom, Director of Operations
Head of Service:	Brian Morgan
Report Author:	Sue Whiteside

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Title:	Core Strategy Development Plan Document: Direction of travel
Portfolio:	Cabinet
This will be a "Key Decision" because:	The DPD is the key document of the LDF policy framework, and the production of its evidence base has financial implications
Purpose:	To seek Members' approval for the direction of the Core Strategy, including consideration of representations on the Preferred Options draft and agreement of a draft timetable for the production of the DPD; and to advise Members of the progress of the Core Strategy evidence base
Decision Maker:	Cabinet
Proposed Date of Decision:	29 June 2009
Consultation and Method:	Stakeholder and statutory public input to Preferred Options stage; LDDAG advice
Representations should be made to:	Michael Thornton, Policy and Environment Manager michaelthornton@maidstone.gov.uk
Representations should be made by:	1 June 2009
Relevant documents:	Core Strategy Development Plan Document Preferred Options (January 2007); Representations on Preferred Options viewed on the Limehouse system at http://maidstone-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal
Wards affected:	All Wards
Other Information:	
Director:	Alison Broom, Director of Operations
Head of Service:	Brian Morgan
Report Author:	Michael Thornton

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Title:	South East Maidstone Strategic Link Road
Portfolio:	Cabinet Member for Regeneration
This will be a "Key Decision" because:	Have significant effect on communities living or working in an area comprising one or more wards in Maidstone.
Purpose:	To seek approval for expenditure to begin the design, alignment and cost estimation work for the SEMSL
Decision Maker:	Cabinet Member for Regeneration
Proposed Date of Decision:	Before 31 July 2009
Original proposed Date of Decision:	December 2008
Reason for Delay:	There has been a delay receiving the brief for the planned works from Jacobs.
Consultation and Method:	
Representations should be made to:	John Foster, Economic Development Manager johnfoster@maidstone.gov.uk
Representations should be made by:	19 June 2009
Relevant documents:	Cabinet Report September 10 th 2008
Wards affected:	All Wards
Other Information:	
Director:	Alison Broom, Director of Operations
Head of Service:	Brian Morgan
Report Author:	John Foster