

**KENNET DISTRICT COUNCIL
CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S GROUP**

**Overview & Scrutiny Management Board
11th July 2006**

**Report Number C/18/06
Planning Policies**

Report by Councillor N Carter – Chairman of the scrutiny team

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To report back the findings of the recent Overview and Scrutiny Task group looking at planning policies.

2.0 Financial, Staffing, Legal & Risk Implications

- 2.1 There are no staffing, financial, risk or legal implications arising out of this report.

3.0 Progress

- 3.1 The Overview & Scrutiny Management Board had initially identified two separate task groups to investigate a) planning policies in relation to equestrian and agricultural buildings and b) planning policies in relation to parking. At the O&S Management Board meeting of December 2005 it was decided to amalgamate the two issues and form one task group.
- 3.2 Councillors Nigel Carter, Jenny Combe, Clyde Hoddinott, Brian Ashley & James Caldwell were appointed to this task group and meetings have been held with officers of the council.
- 3.3 After some discussion of the issues the task group identified the need to gather further background information and therefore called for a report from the Planning Services Manager which defined:-
- 3.3.1 A list of the last couple of years planning applications for a) agricultural buildings and b) dwellings in relation to equine establishments.
- 3.3.2 A report setting out for the last two years worth of significant developments in the district the number of parking spaces recommended and subsequently agreed.
- 3.4 The task group then met with the Planning Services Manager to discuss the reports. The key findings for both issues were that Kennet's policies were broadly in line with government advice but could be strengthened to ensure Kennet's local needs are met. The report was discussed in some detail and some amendments were made. The final version of the report is attached with this report.

Recommendations

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT; the Board

- i) Recommends to the Planning Policies Committee that it adopts the recommendations set out in section 7 of the report by the Planning Services Manager.
- ii) That the new policies once developed are reviewed by Overview & Scrutiny Management Board.

June 2006