

Cinque Port Town of New Romney



Mrs C. Newcombe
Town Clerk
and
Responsible Financial Officer

Town Clerk's Office
Town Hall
New Romney
Kent TN28 8BT

Tel: New Romney 01797 362348

Ref: MW/7001

22nd January 2025

Dear Councillor,

A MEETING OF NEW ROMNEY TOWN COUNCIL'S PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD IN THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, CHURCH APPROACH, NEW ROMNEY TN28 8AS ON WEDNESDAY 29th JANUARY 2025 AT 6.45PM

You are hereby summoned to attend the above-mentioned meeting of New Romney Town Council's Planning and Environment Committee to consider the under-mentioned business.

Signed:

Gemma Hall

Mrs Gemma Hall
Planning Clerk

Email: planning.clerk@newromney-tc.gov.uk

The afore-mentioned meeting will commence at 6.45pm.

Members of Public are welcome to join this meeting.

PLEASE NOTE: New Romney Assembly Rooms and New Romney Town Hall have restricted access for people with limited mobility; please enquire for details.

Anyone displaying any symptoms of Covid-19 should NOT attend the meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

1. Who can participate in a New Romney Town Council meeting?

Members of the Public and Press may attend this Council meeting, except at such times as certain sensitive personal, legal or contractual matters may be considered in private and confidential session, when Members of the Public will be required to leave the meeting.

A maximum of THREE members of public may also participate by submitting a question at a meeting. The question must relate to a matter affecting the parish of New Romney and/or its residents. Each submission must last no longer than 3 minutes in total.

Any such question should be delivered to the Council by way of a written statement submitted by email by midday on the day of the Council meeting - to be read out during the meeting. The question submitted should be mindful of the 3 minute speaking time available. The reading of the question will allow for any mid-sentence delivery to be completed before being stopped at the three minute deadline. If any Member of Public does not have access to email, a question can be submitted by email by a representative on their behalf.

Any such questions should be emailed to: planning.clerk@newromney-tc.gov.uk by midday on the day of the Council meeting.

2. How and when do I have to let the council know that I want to participate?

You will need to give written notice (via email or post) that you would like to participate by 3pm on the Friday before the meeting, providing your name and contact details and a summary of what your question subject will be. No late notifications can be accepted.

3. What happens if more than three local residents want to participate by submitting questions to the Council?

The system will operate on the basis of “first come, first served” as identified by the Clerk. You will be notified as soon as possible after your ‘notification of wish to participate’ has been received as to whether or not you will be able to participate (by reading out your submission).

4. What will happen at the Council meeting?

Your question will be read aloud during the agenda item: Public Questions. If it is possible for the Chairman to provide a response to your question at the meeting, he/she will do so. If it is not possible to provide a response at that time, a response will be provided in writing – usually within 28 days of the meeting taking place.

Agendas and reports for meetings will be available at least 3 working days and usually 7 weekdays before the date of the meeting on the Town Council website. Any supplementary sheets will be available the day before the meeting and can be viewed at www.newromney-tc.gov.uk

THE LAWS OF LIBEL AND SLANDER

- These laws are very strict.
- If, in public, you say something about a person that is not true, even if you believe it to be true, you may be sued and have to pay compensation. Therefore, you need to be very careful about any criticism you wish to make of people in any written submission.
- Councillors are able to speak more freely and bluntly while in Council or Committee meetings than members of the public.
- You, as a member of the public, do not have the same protection.

NEW ROMNEY TOWN COUNCIL
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
29th JANUARY 2025
AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES:

To receive and note apologies of councillors unable to attend.

2. DISPENSATION TO PARTICIPATE:

To receive and note any applications granted by the Town Clerk, on behalf of the Town Council, for dispensation to participate in Meetings of New Romney Town Council.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillors to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or Other Significant or Personal Interests they may have in items on the agenda this evening.

4. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:

To consider formal adjournment of the meeting of the Committee for a maximum period of fifteen minutes to allow for an allocated public session.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS:

Members of the public may put questions to the Chairman of the Committee for a period of fifteen minutes regarding matters to do with the town of New Romney and its coastal areas of Littlestone and Greatstone, including items on the agenda. Any Councillors who have declared an “Other Significant Interest” in matters to be discussed at this meeting will also have the opportunity to speak within the session set aside for public participation, in accordance with the Town Council’s Code of Conduct Item 5(3)(b), which reads as follows:

“ Where you have an Other Significant Interest in any business of the Authority, you may... make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to the business, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose.”

6. RE-CONVENING OF MEETING:

To formally re-convene the meeting of the Committee.

7. MINUTES (Encs*):

To approve the minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee Meeting held on 18th December 2024 (attached hereto).

- 8. PLANNING CLERK'S REPORT (Encs*)**
To receive and note the Planning Clerk's report.
- 9. SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS (Encs*)**
To consider planning applications attached hereto and including any received subsequent to issue of this Agenda and make any recommendations as deemed appropriate.
- 10. SCHEDULE OF LICENCING APPLICATIONS**
To receive and note schedule of Licencing Applications.
- 11. FOLKESTONE AND HYTHE DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORTS DECISIONS/MATTERS (Encs*)**
(i) To received and note Hythe and Folkestone District Council's Reports, Decisions and Matters.
- 12. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS (Encs*)**
To receive written reports and, within the remit of the Committee, take any such action(s) thereon as may be deemed necessary.
(i) Sea water quality and surface water flooding update, if available.
- 13. REPORTS OF WORKING PARTIES (Encs*)**
(i) To receive and note the written reports of any working parties reporting to the Planning and Environment Committee and to take any such action(s) thereon as may be deemed necessary.
- 14. TRANSPORT FOR THE SOUTH EAST'S DRAFT TRANSPORTATION CONSULTATION.**
To review the consultation from Transport for South East and appoint a committee member to respond to the consultation on behalf of New Romney Town Council.

Planning Clerk – 22.01.2025

MINUTES
of
A Meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee
Held in the Assembly Rooms, Church Approach, New Romney
on 18th December 2024
Commencing at 6.45pm

- PRESENT:**
Councillors: K Terry, P Coe, J Rivers, S O'Hare, Rev Cn McLachlan and J Davies
- In the Chair:** Councillor K Terry
- In Attendance:** Planning Clerk - Mrs G Hall

- 440/2024-25 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Apologies for absence were received and noted, as follows:
- Cllr L Phillips due to personal reasons.
- Cllr J Houston due to personal reasons.
- Cllr P Carey due to being unwell.
- 441/2024-25 **DISPENSATION TO PARTICIPATE**
No new applications for Dispensation to Participate had been received.
- 442/2024-25 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
Councillor Terry declared a personal interest in planning application: 24/1892/FH due to being a contractor of the company making the application.
- 443/2024-25 **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**
It was not necessary to adjourn the meeting as no questions had been received in writing.
- 444/2024-25 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**
None received.
- 445/2024-25 **RE-CONVENING OF MEETING**
Not applicable.

446/2024-25 **MINUTES**

Minutes of the Meeting Held on 4th December 2024

The Chairman presented the **Minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee Meeting Held on 4th December 2024**, a copy of which had been previously circulated to all Councillors.

Having duly considered the afore-mentioned minutes, it was

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PROPOSED BY: Councillor O'Hare

SECONDED BY: Councillor Coe

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee Meeting held on 4th December 2024 be approved and signed as a true and correct record.

Councillor Rev Cn McLachlan abstained from voting as she hadn't been present for the meeting.

447/2024-25 **PLANNING CLERK'S REPORT**

The Planning Clerk's report, which had been previously circulated to all Committee Members, was duly received and noted as below:

Asset of Community Value

Please note that the Club House of Littlestone Warren Golf Club has been listed by Folkestone and Hythe District Council as an Asset of Community Value.

Licensing

I have emailed Licensing again following the concerns raised by the Planning and Environment Committee about the pavements being blocked by A-Boards and Street Furniture.

Planning and Environment Committee 8th January 2025 Meeting – CANCELLED

Please note that it has been necessary to cancel our next meeting which was scheduled for Wednesday 8th January 2025. The reason for this is there would not be enough time to get an agenda out due to the office closures over Christmas and the lack of applications received during this time.

Any planning applications received over the Christmas closure will be added to the agenda for the meeting on 29th January 2025 – extensions to deadlines for applications received will be applied for if required.

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Davies
SECONDED BY: Councillor O’Hare

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RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY – that NRTC Planning and Environment Committee comments, including those comments relating to additional planning applications received after publication of the agenda for this meeting, be submitted to FHDC Planning Department:

<u>Application No</u>	<u>Location and Description</u>
(i) <u>24/1892/FH</u>	Unit 12, Mountfield Road, Mountfield Ind Est, New Romney, TN28 8LH Proposed external canopy over entrance door. No Objection
<u>RECOMMENDATION</u> <u>Voting:</u> For Application: Against Application: Abstained:	5 0 1
(ii) <u>24/1778/FH</u>	8 Littlestone Road, Littlestone, New Romney, TN28 8PL Lawful development: existing use. No Objection
<u>RECOMMENDATION</u> <u>Voting:</u> For Application: Against Application: Abstained:	6 0 0
(iii) <u>24/1952/FH</u>	66 St Nicholas Road, Littlestone, New Romney, TN28 8QA Conversion of garage to habitable accommodation, along

RECOMMENDATION

Voting:

For Application:

Against Application:

Abstained:

with the creation of an internal porch.

No Objection

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(iv) [23/1810/FH](#)

Brick Kiln Fields, Cockreed Lane, New Romney, Kent, TN28 8TE

Outlined planning application (with all matters reserved) for 2 chalet style 2-bedroom properties including car parking and widening of access road.

This is a re-consultation following the submission of additional details or a change in circumstance.

These are detailed below:

Proposal description amended 17.12.2024

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend Refusal – Contravenes policy NE 2 – biodiversity – not met ecological requirements. Contravenes HB1 – Quality places and design.

Voting:

For Application:

Against Application:

Abstained:

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449/2024-25 **SCHEDULE OF LICENCE APPLICATIONS**

There were no licence applications for consideration.

450/2024-25 **FOLKESTONE & HYTHE DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORTS/ DECISIONS/MATTERS**

A schedule of delegated decisions of Folkestone & Hythe District Council Planning Department for the periods of 1st December 2024 & 18th December 2024 were duly received and noted.

451/2024-25 **ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

The Kent & Medway Air Quality Forecast for Wednesday 11th December 2024 & The latest Water Quality Sampling Information which had previously been circulated to all Committee Members, was duly received and noted.

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452/2024-25 **REPORTS FROM WORKING PARTIES**

The Parish Highway Improvement Plan working party report, which had been previously circulated to all Committee Members, was duly received and noted as below:

Parking Changes to New Romney High Street

Email sent to Parking Services to raise concerns over the quality of the lines that have been painted and when the other lines will be going in – GH 11.12.2024

A resident has come into the Town Hall with concerns that the new parking bays outside the Library are overlapping their dropped kerb affecting his access. I emailed Parking Services regarding these concerns and after investigation it shows the dropped kerb and keep clear have not been changed or affected. I have advised the resident of this and shown them the photo evidence below.

The image below shows before the parking bays were installed:



The image below shows after the parking bays have been installed. As you can see the keep clear / dog bone has not been affected.



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KCC - School Travel Plans

The following email has been sent to both The Marsh Academy and St Nicholas Academy Primary School to make them aware of the services offered by KCC regarding the School Travel Plans.

In case you were not already aware, KCC has team dedicated to supporting Kent schools with any queries or activities around the promotion and enablement of active and sustainable transport, as well as providing resources to assist with problematic parking and congestion.

You can contact Iona Rogulski for any support – iona.rogulski@kent.gov.uk – 03000 419 582 (direct).

There are lots of free resources available to Kent schools and many of those can be accessed via their online travel plan management system - **“Jambusters”** : **Jambusters** is the website that enables schools to create, store and maintain a School Travel Plan (STP) document. The site also provides, signposting information (such as road safety, crossing patrol information and other campaigns) and the opportunity to apply for grant funding to help schools to encourage and promote active and sustainable travel.

School Travel Plans / Annual Reviews : On the Jambusters system, schools have access to a free and easy to follow template that prompts for the information we require and then pulls the data and information through into a fully formatted STP document. Once the first draft is complete, the Travel Plan Co-Ordinator would submit the STP which would then come through to the KCC officer to review. The officer will liaise directly with the school directly to offer edits and return it on the system as the “2nd draft”, for them to amend and resubmit. Once the STP is approved, the school can then simply complete a quick “Annual Review” for the following 3 years in order to maintain the STP and keep it up to

date (this means schools don't have to complete a whole new STP document every year and instead would only need to do a complete STP every four years). Whilst it's not obligatory for schools to have a current and well-maintained School Travel Plan, it really is an extremely useful document to have in place and can be an incredibly helpful tool to draw upon to support other efforts and respond to local enquiries. This is because the STP captures a great range of useful information that helps to provide officers/ the school/parish councils/local residents (or any other readers) with a clear outline of the school including (but not exclusive to):

- pupil/staff numbers
- where people travel in from
- types and no. of entrances
- surrounding road network

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- issues that the school faces in terms of travel, safety, congestion etc.
- active travel infrastructure
- actions that the school are taking themselves (or intend to take) to address the issues/concerns raised.

As such, there are a number of benefits for schools who are engaged on the Jambusters site and have a recent/up-to-date STP; increased strength to highway improvement requests, supporting grant funding applications and helping to identify and access further active travel opportunities/resources. In addition, a STP can be very useful in terms of providing efficient responses to community queries and can help to build better community relationships by providing local stakeholders with clarity and transparency about the opportunities and challenges for active travel and the actions that the school is taking/has taken regarding these (such as how they promote road safety or considerate/safer parking).

Grant Funding: When a school is engaged and has a STP Co-ordinator assigned on their Jambusters profile, they are invited each year to apply for up to £5k [grant funding](#), towards projects that promote and enable sustainable and active travel. Our grant funding applications window is typically from May-June each year, but "heads-up" and reminder emails are sent to all signed-up schools' contacts so that they have time to prepare their project plans, obtain quotes and complete the application. The funding is "capital" and therefore projects must be infrastructure installations, on their school site, that meet the active/sustainable criteria. For example, successful applications can include cycle/scooter shelters, welly storage, EV charging points, footpath improvements etc.

Responsible Parking Toolkit: this initiative has two aspects; Schools can request a selection of free resources – such as banners, interactive flyers, and information leaflets – all of which encourage responsible and considerate parking, with options and differing designs depending on what specific issue a particular school faces ("keep off the zig zag lines", "pavement parking", and "be considerate of our neighbours", to name a few). The other aspect of the Responsible Parking toolkit

is the [website](#); here, ideas and best practice is shared regarding the distribution of the responsible parking messages. Schools can also use the online “catalogue” to order their free resources.

School Streets: School Streets (SS) schemes are implemented on a trial basis initially and apply a temporary restriction to motorised traffic at school drop-off and pick-up times. The restriction applies to school traffic and through traffic. Residents who live within a School Street/access their property from within the restricted area, will be provided exemption permits and access for Emergency service vehicles is always maintained. School staff facilitate the restriction by setting out temporary barriers, between 45-60 minutes, each morning and afternoon (during

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term time only), to create the “School Streets zone”. This creates a safer, healthier and cleaner environment for everyone.

Naturally, there are many factors we must consider when we assess the suitability of a site for a School Street scheme, and of course a scheme would only be explored if a school expresses interest. Undoubtedly these can be fantastic schemes with incredible outcomes including reducing the number of cars used on the school run, creating a calmer environment for staff and families at peak times, improving neighbour relations, improving children & families’ health and wellbeing, and – as reported by the Headteacher at Southborough CofE Primary School - significantly improving the children’s readiness to learn each morning.

Above all, School Streets ultimately improve the safety and experience of the most vulnerable road users as they travel to/from school each day.

Active Travel Maps: Once a school has a recently approved School Travel Plan in place, they become eligible to receive a bespoke active travel map. We provide this resource as a pdf document, however the schools can then have the file printed and folded into the handy pocket-size leaflet; on one side parents would find handy information about the school and the benefits of travelling actively. And on the reverse side there is a map of the school and surrounding areas with keys that highlight various elements, such as “5minute walking radius” , Public Footpaths, Park & Stride locations, etc.

If any of the above sounds useful for you, if you have any queries, or if you’d like to set up a School Travel Plan and/or apply for grant funding, please contact Iona – iona.rogulski@kent.gov.uk

The Chairman thanked those present for their attendance and the meeting
Concluded **at 7.24PM**

Minutes prepared by the Planning Clerk

NEW ROMNEY TOWN COUNCIL
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
29th JANUARY 2025
PLANNING CLERK'S REPORT

Planning application: 24/1382/FH – The Red Cross Shop.

Councillor Thomas – The district councillor at Folkestone and Hythe District council liaised with a senior officer within the Planning Department at FHDC and he confirmed that The Conversation Officer's report/comments are for office use only, to inform the Planning Officer of the relevant conservation criteria to be applied to an application.

The good news is that the Red Cross Shop planning application has now been approved with conditions by FHDC under planning application: [24/1521/FH](#) - see delegated decisions

New Consolidation Order in Folkestone and Hythe

Email from KCC:

Good morning,

We would like to inform you of a Made Order to consolidate all traffic movements in Folkestone & Hythe.

To find out more please visit: [Various Roads in the District of Folkestone & Hythe - Traffic Movement Consolidation Order](#)

If you wish to challenge the validity of the order, you may apply to the High Court by 3 March 2025.

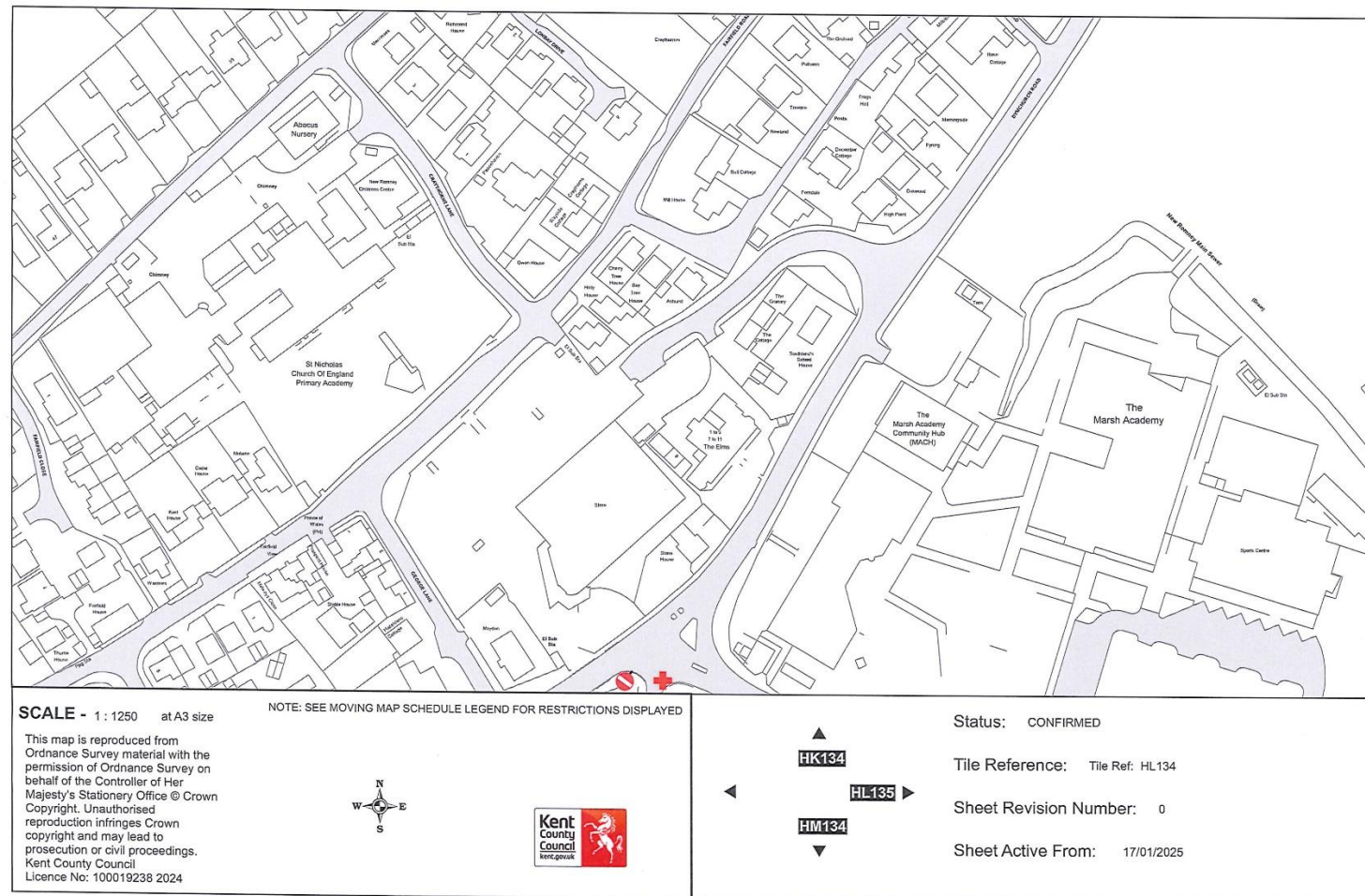
Kind regards,

KCC's Traffic Management Team

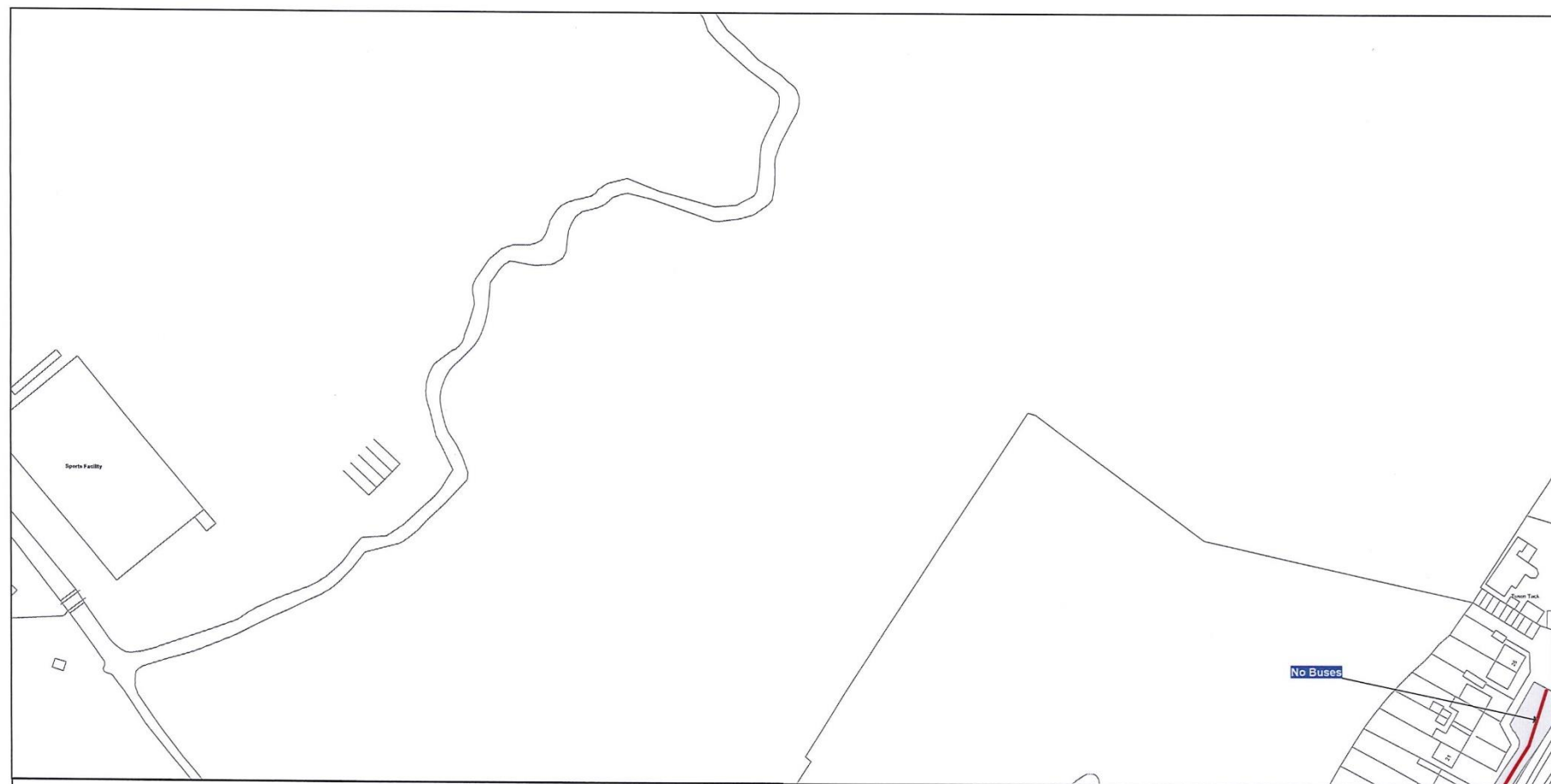
TRO@kent.gov.uk

The maps valid to New Romney I have extracted and uploaded below for your information:

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL VARIOUS TRAFFIC MOVEMENTS MAP SCHEDULES



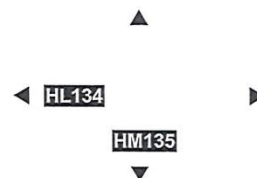
THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL VARIOUS TRAFFIC MOVEMENTS MAP SCHEDULES



SCALE - 1 : 1250 at A3 size

NOTE: SEE MOVING MAP SCHEDULE LEGEND FOR RESTRICTIONS DISPLAYED

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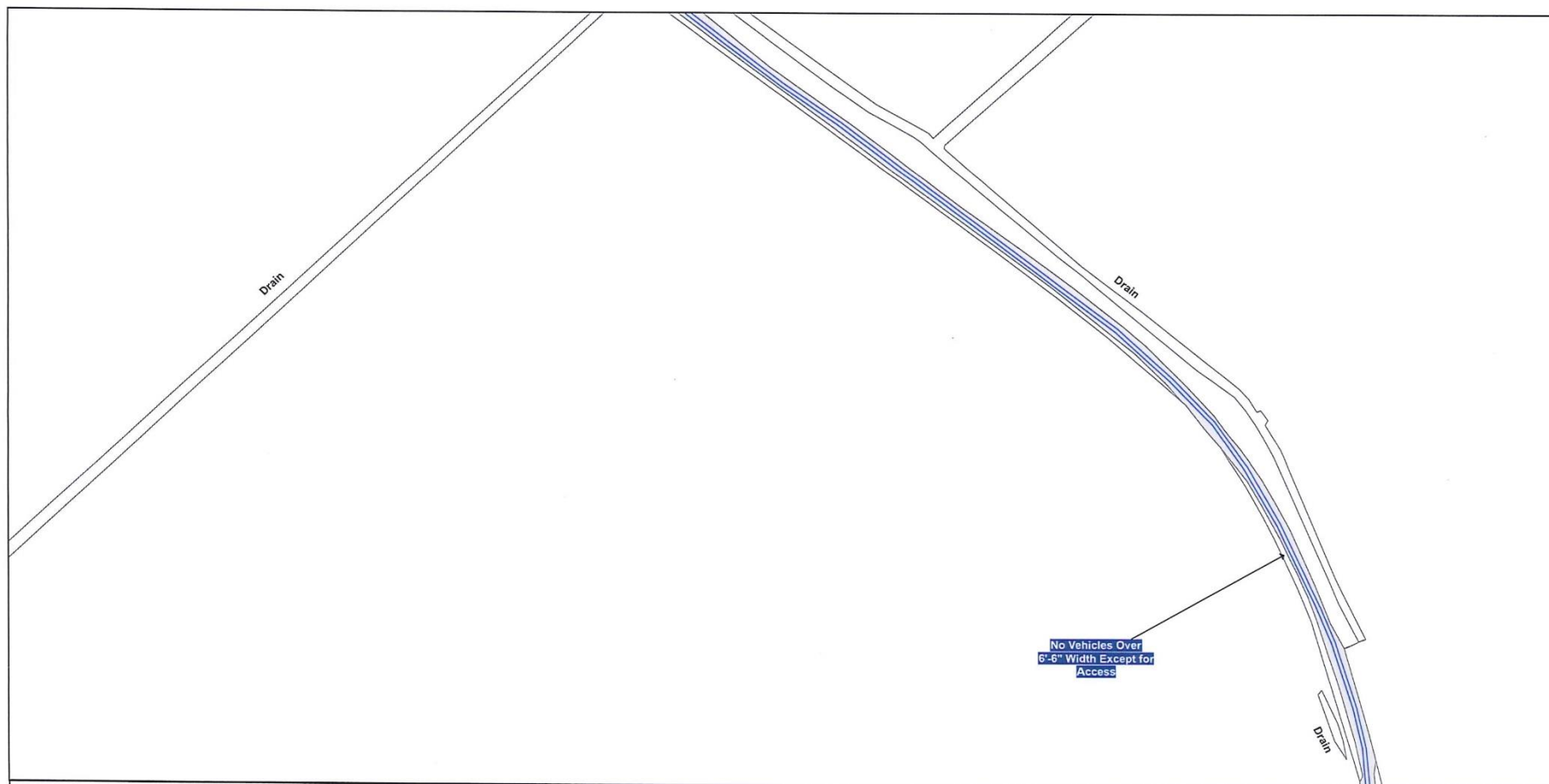
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Tile Reference: Tile Ref: HL135

Sheet Revision Number: 0

Sheet Active From: 17/01/2025

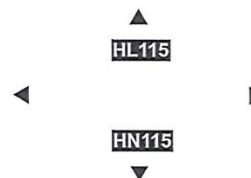
THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL VARIOUS TRAFFIC MOVEMENTS MAP SCHEDULES



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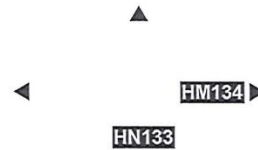
THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL VARIOUS TRAFFIC MOVEMENTS MAP SCHEDULES



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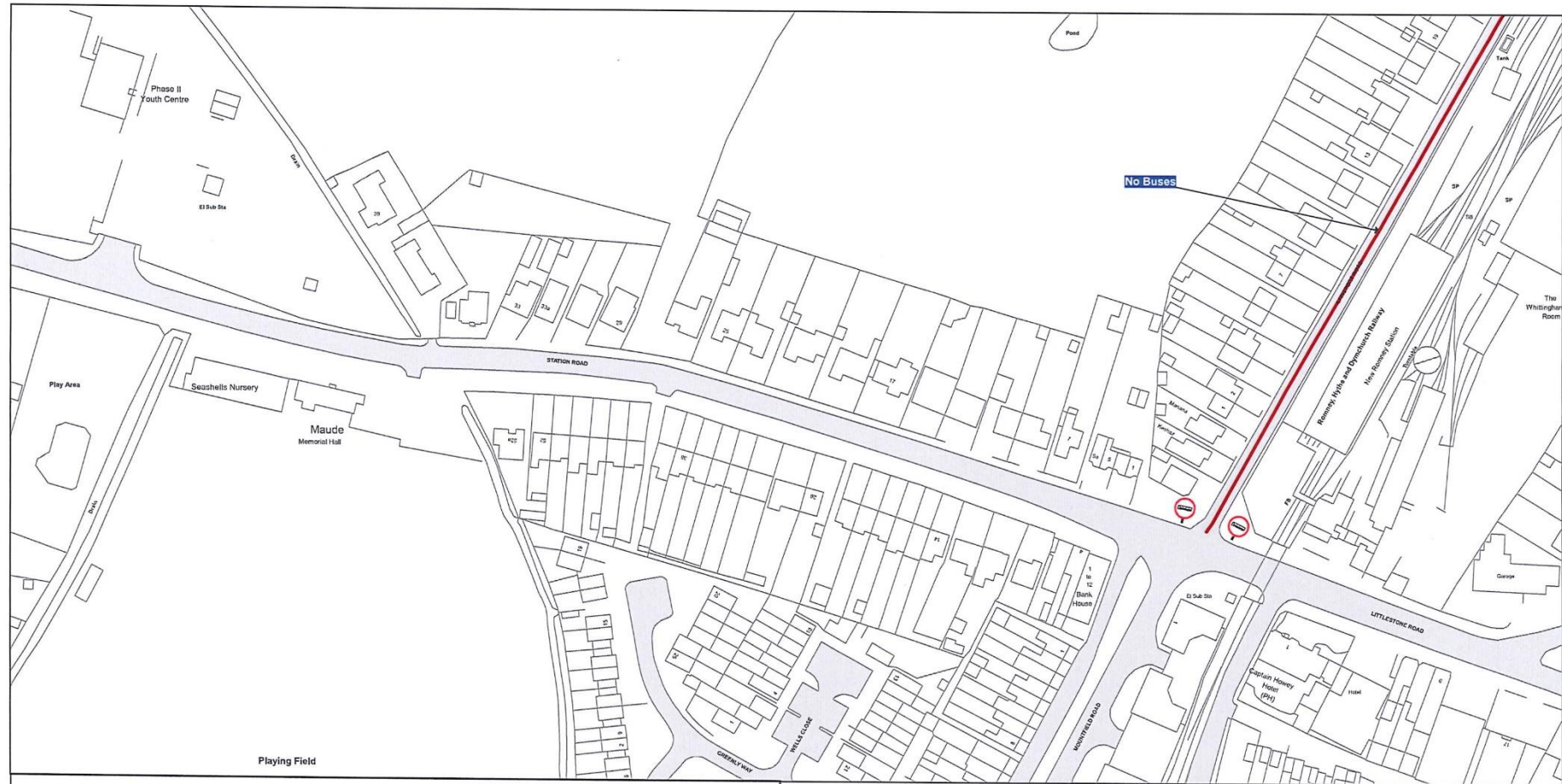
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Sheet Revision Number: 0

Sheet Active From: 17/01/2025

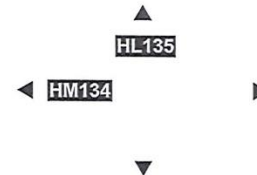
THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL VARIOUS TRAFFIC MOVEMENTS MAP SCHEDULES



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THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL VARIOUS TRAFFIC MOVEMENTS MAP SCHEDULES



NEW ROMNEY TOWN COUNCIL
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
29TH JANUARY 2025
SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS
FOR CONSIDERATION

<u>Application No</u>	<u>Location and Description</u>
(i) <u>24/2009/FH</u>	<p>2 Richmond Drive, New Romney, TN28 8UT</p> <p>Single storey porch with pitched roof to front elevation. (extension to deadline for comments requested: 15.01.25)</p>

RECOMMENDATION

Voting:

For Application:

Against Application:

Abstained:

(ii) <u>24/2008/FH/TCA</u>	<p>Caldecot House, North House, New Romney, TN28 8DW</p> <p>Works to tree situated in a conservation area comprising of a Bromley Apple crown reduction of approx. 2 meters.</p>
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RECOMMENDATION

Voting:

For Application:

Against Application:

Abstained:

(iii) <u>24/2021/FH</u>	<p>79 High Street, New Romney, TN28 8AZ</p> <p>Advertisement consent for a single sided D6 digital advertisement display. (extension to deadline for comments requested: 15.01.25)</p>
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RECOMMENDATION

Voting:

For Application:

Against Application:

Abstained:

(iv) [25/0043/FH](#)

95 St Nicholas Road, Littlestone,
New Romney, TN28 8QA

Front & rear dormers.

RECOMMENDATION

Voting:

For Application:

Against Application:

Abstained:

Additional planning applications received:

(v) [25/0095/FH](#)

17-19 Dunes Road, Greatstone, TN28 8SS

Retrospective application for siting of InPost
Parcel Locker.

RECOMMENDATION

Voting:

For Application:

Against Application:

Abstained:

NEW ROMNEY TOWN COUNCIL
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
29th JANUARY 2025

DELEGATED DECISIONS OF FOLKESTONE & HYTHE DISTRICT COUNCIL

For the period ending 1st December 2024

- (i) [24/1549/FH](#) Town Hall, High Street, New Romney, TN28 8BT

Installation of Air Conditioning system.

DECISION:

Approved with conditions

NRTC – Did not comment as NRTC application.

For the period ending 19th December 2024

- (i) [24/1592/FH](#) 157 Littlestone Road, New Romney, Kent, TN28 8QB

Works to trees the subject of TPO No. 05 of 1994:
T1, Holm Oak - Crown reduction by a maximum of 3
meters back to the previous pruning points, Remove
lowest limb towards West, Crown lift to a maximum
of 4 meters, Crown thin by 15% T2, Holm Oak – Crown

DECISION:

Approved with conditions

NRTC – No Objection

- (ii) [24/1639/FH](#) Birchwood, Spitalfield Lane, New Romney, TN25 8HQ

Subject of TPO No. 20 of 2006 - T1 Silver Birch -Crown
reduction max 2 meters, T2 Silver Birch - Crown
reduction max 2 meters, T3 Silver Birch - Crown
reduction max 2 meters, T4 Silver Birch - Crown
reduction max 2 meters reduction

DECISION:

Approved with conditions

NRTC – No Objection

(iii) [24/1943/FH/NMA](#)

64 St Nicholas Road, New Romney, TN28 8QA

Non Material Amendment to planning permission
[23/0177/FH](#) to allow for a change from flat roof to pitched
and rendered walls to cladding.

DECISION:

Approved

NRTC – Did not comment – No Objection to planning
application: [23/0177/FH](#).

For the period ending 5th January 2025

(i) [24/1521/FH](#)

42 High Street, New Romney, TN28 8BZ

Listed building consent for repairs to existing roof and
gutters, front bay windows, timber shop fronts and central
portico also some internal repairs.

DECISION:

Approved with conditions

NRTC – No Objection

NEW ROMNEY TOWN COUNCIL
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
29th JANUARY 2025
ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Kent & Medway Air Quality Forecast for Wednesday 22nd January 2025

Tomorrow	Air quality within the post code region TN28 is forecast to be mainly Low
Friday	Air quality within the post code region TN28 is forecast to be Low

The probability of pollution levels being within the four main bandings is shown in the table below.

Air Pollution Level	Tomorrow	Wednesday
Low	90%	>95%
Moderate	10%	<5%
High	<5%	<1%
Very High	<1%	<1%

Recommended Actions and Health Advice

Air Pollution Banding	Value	Accompanying health messages for at-risk individuals*	Accompanying health messages for the general population
Low	1-3	Enjoy your usual outdoor activities.	Enjoy your usual outdoor activities.
Moderate	4-6	Adults and children with lung problems, and adults with heart problems, who experience symptoms , should consider reducing strenuous physical activity, particularly outdoors.	Enjoy your usual outdoor activities.
High	7-9	Adults and children with lung problems, and adults with heart problems, should reduce strenuous	Anyone experiencing discomfort such as sore eyes, cough or sore throat

		physical exertion, particularly outdoors, and particularly if they experience symptoms. People with asthma may find they need to use their reliever inhaler more often. Older people should also reduce physical exertion.	should consider reducing activity, particularly outdoors.
Very High	10	Adults and children with lung problems, adults with heart problems, and older people, should avoid strenuous physical activity. People with asthma may find they need to use their reliever inhaler more often.	Reduce physical exertion, particularly outdoors, especially if you experience symptoms such as cough or sore throat.

*Adults and children with heart or lung problems are at greater risk of symptoms. Follow your doctor's usual advice about exercising and managing your condition. It is possible that very sensitive individuals may experience health effects even on Low air pollution days. Anyone experiencing symptoms should follow the guidance provided below.

Further information about health and air quality can be found here: <https://kentair.org.uk/faq>

Further details about current air quality and the forecast are available – [here](#)

Water Quality Sampling Information

Water Quality Sampling has now concluded for this year. All data collect and information has been uploaded onto New Romney Town Council's website:

https://www.newromney-tc.gov.uk/Water_Quality_Sampling_Information_48107.aspx

Understanding our data collected

Coastal Bathing Waters

Classification

Thresholds (percentile)

Excellent	EC: ≤250 cfu/100ml ;	IE: ≤100 cfu/100ml (95 th percentile)
Good	EC: ≤500 cfu/100ml ;	IE: ≤200 cfu/100ml (95 th percentile)
Sufficient	EC: ≤500 cfu/100ml ;	IE: ≤185 cfu/100ml (90 th percentile)
Poor	means that the values are worse than the sufficient	

(≤ means less than or equal to)

For every designated bathing water in England, the Environment Agency monitors Escherichia coli (EC) and intestinal enterococci (IE) in the water, throughout the bathing season (15 May to 30 September).

Values can vary depending on the weather, pollution from agricultural and urban sources, storm water overflows, amongst other factors.

The readings taken over the last four bathing seasons then determine the annual classification for that water.

Escherichia coli (E.coli)

E. coli are a group of organisms found in the intestines of animals and humans and survive for a while in the environment when excreted. Many types of *E. coli* are not harmful but some such as *E. coli* 0157, can directly cause illness. The presence of the bacteria indicates that human or animal faeces may be present in bathing water and could contain other potentially harmful organisms that could cause illness.

Intestinal Enterococci (IE)

Intestinal Enterococci are found in the intestines of animals and humans although some types are environmental in origin. The presence of the bacteria indicates that human or animal faeces may be present in bathing water alongside other potentially harmful organisms that could cause illness.

NEW ROMNEY TOWN COUNCIL
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
29th JANUARY 2025
REPORTS OF WORKING PARTIES

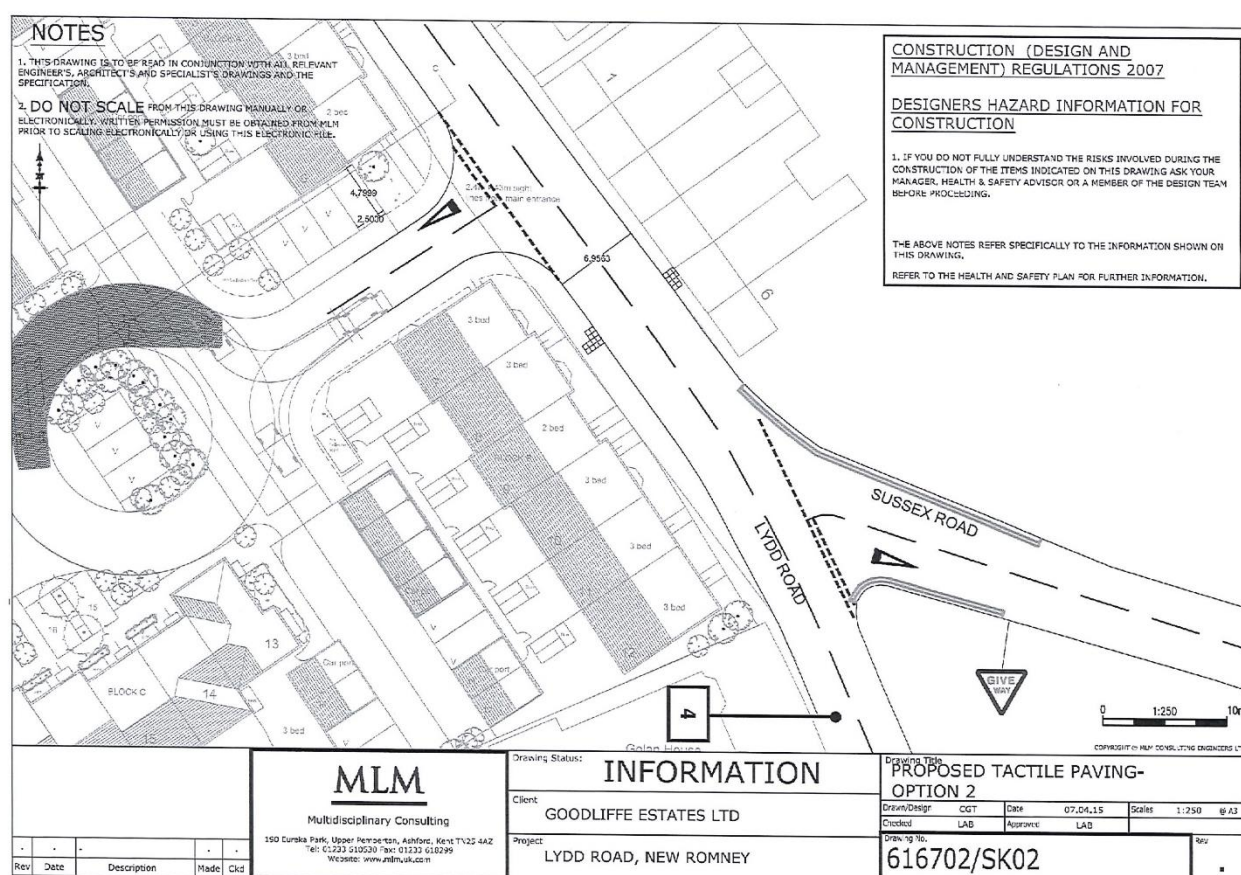
Changes to New Romney High Street Parking

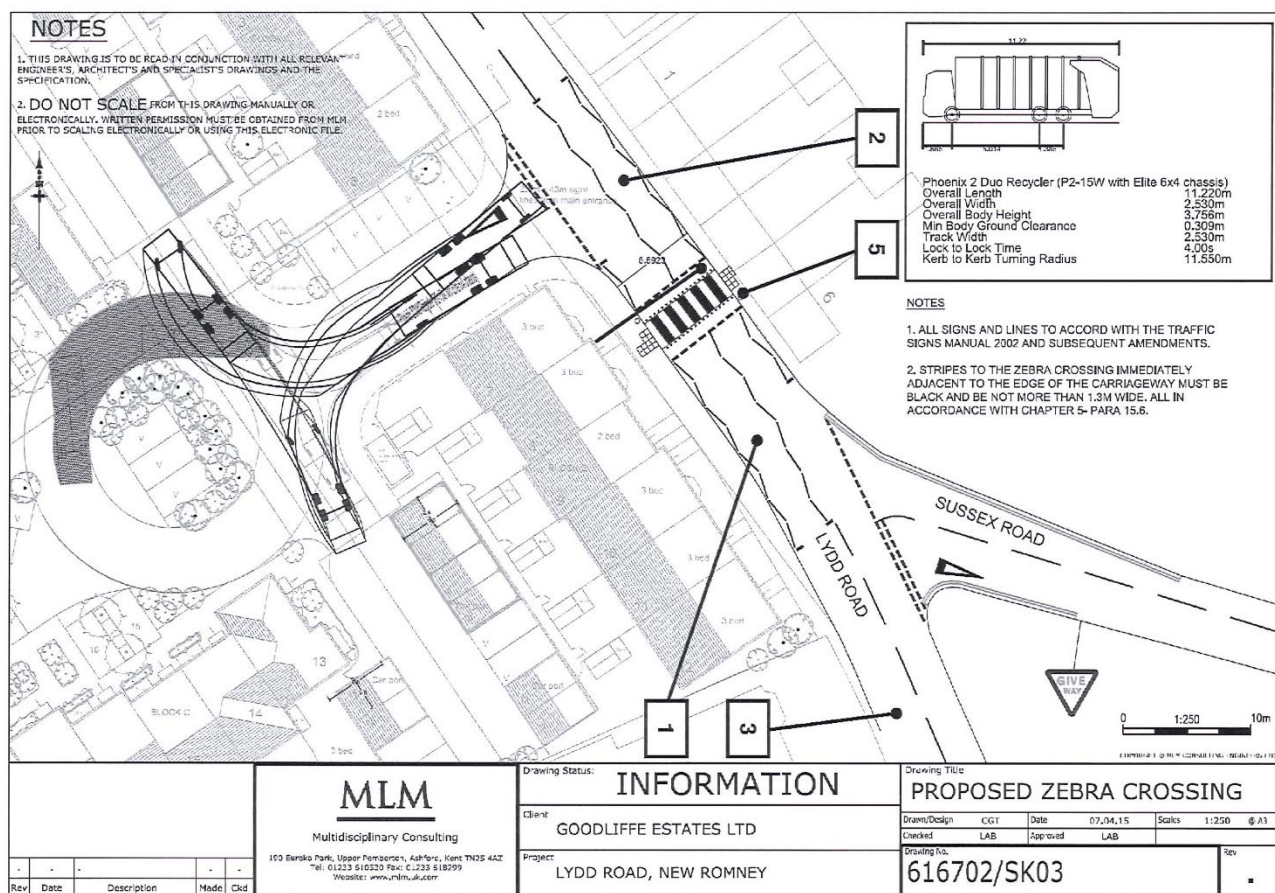
After sending a chasing email to query when the final line work will be installed, I was advised that all works will be completed in the next week – GH 15.01.2025

Email sent to chase what is happening as the lines have still not been completed – GH 29.01.2025

Disabled Bay – Lydd Road.

A query was raised with FHDC regarding the installation of a disabled parking bay on Lydd Road outside the West View Cottages. The disabled parking bay is situated near to where a proposed pedestrian crossing is to be installed by the developers in the land opposite. The dropped kerbs have already been installed on either side of Lydd Road by the developer where the crossing is to be installed – see images below taken from the planning application for the development site. FHDC have advised the bay can be moved once the crossing is installed.





HIP Meeting with KCC – 14th January 2025

The planning clerk took part in a zoom call with Kent County Council's Highway Improvement Plan team and we went through New Romney's Highway Improvement Plan – please see the updates on the plan below. This has been uploaded onto New Romney Town Council's website under the Parish Highway Improvement Plan section.



Highway Improvements Team working in Partnership with New Romney Town Council Highway Improvement Plan

Submission Date: December 2022

(Please remember that the HIP is for new initiatives/measures/schemes in your community – it is NOT to be used as a maintenance log, as these MUST be logged using the online reporting tool via this link <https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem>)

HIP Front Cover

HIP Version	Submitted by (Name)	HIP Date	Record Of Meeting Dates with KCC Virtual or Face to Face	County Member	
1					
Please list below the funding opportunities/Sources for HIP initiatives/Measures				I.e., County Member, Parish Precept Donation, LTP	
Are you an active member of the Speed Watch Scheme?		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are you an active member of the Lorry Watch Scheme?		
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Name of HIP Representative		Contact Telephone Number		Email Address	
Name of Clerk	Planning Clerk – Mrs Gemma Hall	Contact Telephone Number	01797 362348 01797 740161	Email Address	planning.clerk@newromney-tc.gov.uk
Name of Chair		Contact Telephone Number		Email Address	
KCC Project Manager Team	Community & Engagement Team (EAST)	Contact Telephone Number	03000 418181	Email Address	east.highwayimprovements@kent.gov.uk

- Please note the Priority column MUST be those issues which are regarded as the most important (No 1 being your highest priority, then filtering down)
KCC is unable to guarantee that all your requests will be deliverable, but Project Managers can investigate your top 1 or 2 priorities per year.

Please Note: Highway Improvement Plans will only be accepted if they are in this prescribed template format. **PLEASE DO NOT ALTER IN ANY WAY.**
Whilst this is intended to be a living document for your Parish Council, KCC can only make resources available to review your HIP annually –
XXXX's review is on or after XXXX each year.



Highway Improvements Team working in Partnership with New Romney Town Council Highway Improvement Plan

Live Priorities Record

Priority	Location	USRN	Problem/Concern	What do you feel are the potential solutions?	KCC Comments (This column is to be completed by Project Manager ONLY)
1.	Please see 20 MPH zones 1-6 attached.		Speeding	20 MPH zones	<p>02/02/2023-</p> <p>KCC and PC agreed to focus on Zones 1 & 2 as a priority.</p> <p>As above, traffic survey locations to be determined by KCC.</p> <p>18/10/2023-</p> <p>Traffic survey results are mostly in support of a 20mph limit for the majority of Zones 1-2, however the eastern side of Cockreed Lane has average speeds that are too high.</p> <p>For KCC to discuss options with PC at meeting on 01/11/2023</p> <p>01/11/2023-</p> <p>All average speeds from the surveys are in support of the a 20mph limit for Zones 1 & 2, except for the eastern end of Cockreed Lane which were 28mph. This is higher than we would like, and it is unlikely that we would get compliance without physical measures, however these measures are usually not popular with residents due to noise, they are expensive, and they require a system of street lighting. We are unsure at this time if the streetlighting present would be adequate enough to be classed as a safe system.</p> <p>KCC to produce an extents plan for PC to conduct further informal engagement with residents and provide KCC with responses.</p> <p>KCC to look at options regarding upgrades to school signage.</p> <p>19/11/2024</p> <p>TRO passed and invoice paid for detailed design for 20MPH zone for Phase 1.</p>

Highway Improvements Team working in Partnership with New Romney Town Council

Highway Improvement Plan

					<p>14/01/2025-</p> <p>Zones 1 & 2 in design phase.</p> <p>KCC to progress traffic surveys for zones 3-6 to assess feasibility.</p> <p>KCC to ascertain if Joseph's Way and surrounding roads as part of the new estate are publicly maintainable or not as this will effect the boundaries of the 20mph limit if feasible.</p>
2.	High Street, New Romney		Inconsiderate/Bad Parking - Causing Congestion.	Red lines needed to improve traffic flow and pedestrian safety.	<p>02/02/2023-</p> <p>Not feasible as this is only conducted in London.</p> <p>Changes to High Street Parking being actioned by Folkestone and Hythe District Council</p> <p>19/11/2024 – Changes to High Street Parking design by Folkestone and Hythe District Council has been through public consultation and passed by the JTB.</p> <p>Traffic Regulation Order passed and the changes are being implemented by FHDC contractors– hoping for completion prior to Christmas 2024.</p> <p>14/01/2025-</p> <p>PC waiting for the parking restrictions to be completed by FHDC. As this is being actioned by FHDC with no need for KCC action, this has been moved to the historical list.</p>
3.	i) Queens Road ii) Littlestone Road/Station Road iii) Coast Road iv) The Churchlands		Speeding.	Enhanced vehicle activated signs or traffic calming measures needed.	<p>02/02/2023-</p> <p>Did not discuss as prioritising above.</p> <p>14/01/2025-</p> <p>Traffic surveys to be conducted as part of the investigation into the 20mph zones. These can also be used to assess for either a Speed Indicator Device (SID) or a Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS). Full information sent to PC for consideration but main points are below:</p> <p>These devices are to be funded by the PC (Rough estimate</p>

Highway Improvements Team working in Partnership with New Romney Town Council

Highway Improvement Plan

					<p>of £10,000-£15,000) These devices cannot be used in 20mph limits, so cannot be used in conjunction with the 20mph zones if feasible We need to evidence the justification for their use and have approved locations The SID needs to be moved at least every 8 weeks between a minimum of 3 sites by volunteers</p> <p>PC informed KCC of development set at the end of Victoria Road West which will put more traffic onto the surrounding area.</p> <p>KCC to discuss this with the Development Team to see if any agreements are in place and whether any traffic calming or speed reductions are agreed for the area.</p> <p>PC mentioned issues on A259 by Longshore Grove whereby a disabled bay has been installed by FHDC in the same location as a controlled crossing is set to be installed by the developer.</p> <p>KCC to inform the Development Team of the issue to liaise direct with PC.</p>
4.	Fairfield Road junction with St Mary's Road, New Romney		Problem parking	Double yellow lines require around the junction	<p>19/11/2024</p> <p>KCC is currently drawing up extents plan for this that NRTC will take to public consultation.</p> <p>14/01/2025-</p> <p>Awaiting for the extents plans to be checked and approved before sending to PC for informal engagement</p>
5.	Coast Drive near Spar Greatstone/Clark Road.		Pedestrian crossing requested due to speeding and increase in pedestrians/visitors to The Green's.	The Green's is already a very popular destination for local residents and tourists/holiday makers visiting the play park and beach. New development on The Green's at Littlestone of the extension of the beach huts will cause more visitors.	<p>02/02/2023-</p> <p>Did not discuss as prioritising above.</p> <p>14/01/2025-</p> <p>KCC to review signage and road markings on Coast Drive</p>



Highway Improvements Team working in Partnership with New Romney Town Council Highway Improvement Plan

					<p>and propose improvements to PC.</p> <p>KCC to discuss PC's request for a controlled crossing by the park on Coast Drive with the Planning & Advice Team</p>
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Highway Improvements Team working in Partnership with New Romney Town Council

Highway Improvement Plan

Historical Priorities Record

No	Location	USRN	Problem/Concern	What do you feel are the potential solutions?	KCC Comments
	High Street, New Romney		Inconsiderate parking	Red lines needed to improve traffic flow and pedestrian safety.	02/02/2023- Not feasible as this is only conducted in London. Changes to High Street Parking being actioned by Folkestone and Hythe District Council
	All roads		Double yellow line review – Many lines in our Parish are faded and need repainting and possibly extending.		02/02/2023- Any faded lines should be reported online via https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem Any extension to double yellow lines will need to be considered on a case by case basis.
	i) St Nicholas School – Fairfield Road, New Romney, TN28 8BP, Craythorne Lane & Rolfe Lane, New Romney. ii) The Marsh Academy – Station Road, New Romney, TN28 8BB See School Zone map attached.		Speeding and problem parking. Cars driving too fast near the school. Speed limit is currently 30MPH by both schools. Parent's parking on double yellow lines and blocking driveways. No crossing for St Nicholas School.	School Zones required.	02/02/2023- St Nicholas School is incorporated into Zone 2 of PC plans for 20mph zone. For a formal crossing point, both a traffic survey and pedestrian survey would need to be conducted to ascertain feasibility. KCC estimate at least £30,000 for a formal crossing (subject to fluctuation with cost of materials constantly changing) Traffic surveys to be conducted throughout Zone 1 & 2. KCC to determine locations and obtain cost of these surveys along with pedestrian survey. Vehicles parking on double yellow lines and blocking driveways are for enforcement by F&H and police.



Highway Improvements Team working in Partnership with New Romney Town Council Highway Improvement Plan

					PC advise that there are current plans for double yellow lines in the area.
					KCC has sent PC information on the School Travel Plan to share with both schools. 18/10/2023- Traffic and Pedestrian survey results have been analysed and unfortunately does not meet the minimum criteria for the installation of a formal crossing point.

Highway Improvements Team working in Partnership with New Romney Town Council

Highway Improvement Plan

<p>i) High Street ii) Church Lane iii) Church Road vi) The junction of Ashford Road onto The High Street. v) Station Road, Littlestone Road, Marsh Avenue, Blenheim Road, St Martins Road, The Churchlands, Marsh Crescent, Wiles Avenue, and Carey Close</p>		<p>Problem parking – causing congestion. i) Vehicles parking on Double Yellow lines outside Premier Stores near Tritton Lane causing a bottle neck in The High Street which causes delays and congestion due to the heavy flow of traffic. Larger vehicles struggle to get through the gap. ii) Vehicles parking on double yellow lines near Church Lane Surgery/The Old School House. iii) Vehicles parking on double yellow lines, blocking driveways, creating bottlenecks, and causing congestion especially near The Old School. iv) Vehicles parking on double yellow lines near junction opposite Oak Hall Surgery causing bottlenecks and congestion. v) Vehicles parking on grass verges/pathways.</p>	<p>i) Relocation of 'Coach Parking' bay from opposite the garage on the Highstreet to somewhere more suitable: Mountfield Ind Est or The Marsh Academy Car Park to free up parking spaces for other vehicles including an additional disabled bay. The new car parking bays should have time limits on them. To stop vehicles parking outside Romney Cycles – Premier Store side of the High Street to allow free flow of traffic – double yellow lines/red lines. Stagecoach have changed their timetable for New Romney High Street buses which was due to congestion. v) Bollards on grass verges needed.</p>	<p>02/02/2023-</p> <p>PC to liaise with F&H Council regarding the "Coach Parking Bay"</p> <p>PC advised that buses and HGVs are struggling to manoeuvre past each other as there are pinch points caused by vehicles parking on both sides of High Street.</p> <p>PC requested double yellow lines from Esso garage down to Premier Shop to allow free flow of traffic, with parking available with restricted time limits opposite.</p> <p>KCC to seek advice on this and come back to PC.</p> <p>PC reported issue with delivery of gas bottles on Ashford Road whereby the driver parks on the pavement, blocking it for pedestrians, and causing vehicles on the other side to drive on the pavement to get around.</p> <p>PC requested bollards but suspect that the pavement is not wide enough.</p> <p>KCC to measure pavement and ascertain options.</p> <p>01/11/2023-</p> <p>PC to continue with F&H District Council in regards to the Coach Bay and subsequent installation of double yellow lines by the Esso petrol station.</p>
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Highway Improvements Team working in Partnership with New Romney Town Council

Highway Improvement Plan

					<p>PC reporting a crash issue at the junction of Ashford Road and High Street (A259). Crash data at this time shows one slight injury collision that occurred December 2022 where a vehicle overshot the STOP junction and collided with another.</p> <p>PC to report maintenance issues with lining via https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem</p> <p>PC requested an advanced STOP sign to be installed just before the buildings on the nearside. KCC have visited the site and there is an advanced STOP sign already present with a distance plate.</p> <p>PC also proposed a buildout by the junction, however High Street unfortunately does not have the available width to install one here.</p> <p>Moved to historical as no further options at this junction, and Coach Bay issues being dealt with by F&H.</p>
	Lydd Road – A259 – Outside Spitalfield Terrace.		Problem parking. Vehicles parking outside Spitalfield Terrace on the A259 as you go into New Romney. This causes major congestion due to a bottleneck/single file traffic and as consequence waiting vehicles then cut down Spitalfield Lane.	Due to the new development happening opposite Spitalfield Terrace a pedestrian crossing is due to be installed which should prevent the cars from parking on the A259. However there will inevitably still be cars that park there and cause an obstruction and a long term solution needs finding.	<p>02/02/2023-</p> <p>Did not discuss as prioritising above.</p> <p>01/11/2023-</p> <p>PC to liaise with Development Agreements team via DevelopmentAgreements@kent.gov.uk</p> <p>If unable to have measures agreed with the developer to alleviate this issue, for PC to raise again for Highway Improvements to discuss</p>
	High Street, New Romney		Inconsiderate/Bad Parking - Causing Congestion.	Red lines needed to improve traffic flow and pedestrian safety.	<p>02/02/2023-</p> <p>Not feasible as this is only conducted in London.</p> <p>Changes to High Street Parking being actioned by Folkestone and Hythe District Council</p> <p>19/11/2024 – Changes to High Street Parking design by Folkestone and Hythe District Council has been through</p>



Highway Improvements Team working in Partnership with New Romney Town Council Highway Improvement Plan

					<p>public consultation and passed by the JTB.</p> <p>Traffic Regulation Order passed and the changes are being implemented by FHDC contractors– hoping for completion prior to Christmas 2024.</p> <p>14/01/2025-</p> <p>PC waiting for the parking restrictions to be completed by FHDC. As this is being actioned by FHDC with no need for KCC action, this has been moved to the historical list.</p>
	Dymchurch Road		Speeding.	Extend the 30 MPH speed limit up to Marlie Farm.	<p>02/02/2023-</p> <p>Did not discuss as prioritising above.</p> <p>14/01/2025-</p> <p>KCC not in support of a speed reduction here as believes that 40mph is the most appropriate for the environment.</p> <p>KCC explained that by reducing the speed limit below what the environment would suggest to the average driver as the most appropriate, we risk having the opposite effect and see higher average speeds, an increased amount of inappropriate and dangerous overtaking, and therefore an increased risk of injury collisions occurring.</p> <p>The built up environment here is typical of a 40mph limit with it being built up on one side with houses set back.</p> <p>Average speeds for this section of the road are approximately 33mph which suggests good compliance currently, and there are no collisions in the last 3 years related to speed.</p>
	i) Spitalfield Lane Fairfield Road		Poor visibility.	Improve highway lighting for all roads without engineered footpaths.	<p>02/02/2023-</p> <p>Did not discuss as prioritising above.</p> <p>14/01/2025-</p>



Highway Improvements Team working in Partnership with New Romney Town Council Highway Improvement Plan

					There is currently street lighting in place in these areas, and an improvement to this lighting will be an incredibly costly scheme. No evidence to support this at this time.
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Please see below the latest Road Safety & Active Travel Newsletter received from KCC. A copy of this has already been emailed to all councillors and it will be uploaded onto NRTC's website under the Highway Improvement Plan page.

ROAD SAFETY & ACTIVE TRAVEL NEWSLETTER



ISSUE 3 (OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2024)



As 2024 draws to a close, we want to take this opportunity to thank you all for working with us on your Highway Improvement Plans (HIPs) this year and to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy new year.

This year we have met with the vast majority of Parishes and Town Councils across Kent, with conversations on-going with many more of you.

We welcome the opportunity to work with those Parish and Town Councils who have not yet submitted a HIP, so please do not hesitate to contact us at west.highwayimprovements@kent.gov.uk or east.highwayimprovements@kent.gov.uk so that your designated Community Engagement Officer can get in touch to introduce themselves and arrange to meet with you.

We look forward to continuing to work with you in 2025 and remain committed to helping you to identify and deliver schemes that are important to your communities.

MEET THE TEAM VISION ZERO

The Vision Zero (VZ) Team's focus is on cutting the number of people killed or injured on our road network. Our VZ strategy follows international best practice and employs a safe system approach that focuses on key identified elements: Safer Roads and Streets, Safer Speeds, Safer Behaviours, Safer Vehicles and Post Collision Response.

Not all of these are entirely within KCC's area of responsibility, so the team actively collaborates with key stakeholders through the Kent and Medway Safer Roads Partnership to develop and deliver the safe system.

There are four teams within Vision Zero that each contribute to elements of the system:

The Safer Road Users Behaviour Change Team – works on changing behaviours and attitudes around road safety, using education, training and publicity. **See pages 4–6 for more on the important work that this team does.**

The Kent Driver Education Team – delivers the National Driver Offender Retraining Scheme (NDORS), a range of courses aimed at changing the behaviour of drivers who have committed an offence.

The Safer Speed and Enforcement Team – liaises with the other Kent Safety Camera Partnership members (Medway Council, Kent Police, and National Highways) to manage our permanent and vehicle-based safety cameras. The team includes a Fleet Engagement Officer who liaises with companies and promotes best practice for fleet management.

The Crash Data Team – liaises with Kent Police and the Department for Transport to receive, cleanse and verify crash data so we can use it to inform decisions on our interventions, be they infrastructure focussed or road user group focussed.

DID YOU KNOW? SAFETY CAMERAS

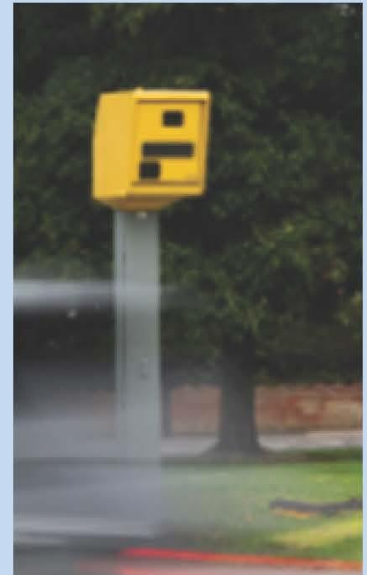
At Kent County Council (KCC) we receive hundreds of requests each year for speed/safety cameras but it is not possible to install cameras at all requested sites.

Installation of Safety Cameras in Kent & Medway is managed by the Kent and Medway Safety Camera Partnership (KMSCP). The policy that the Partnership adheres to and the key criteria it follows when considering a site is outlined on their website at [Camera criteria - Kent & Medway Safety Camera Partnership \(kmscp.co.uk\)](http://kmscp.co.uk).

Fixed safety cameras are probably the most requested form of camera enforcement and these can be installed where three or more people have been killed or seriously injured in speed-related crashes, over a 1.5km stretch of road, in the three years prior to installation. Alternatively, they can also be considered where there has been a history of speed-related crashes at single sites or along a route where a robust investigation by KCC, as Highway Authority, has determined a safety camera to be the most appropriate measure to mitigate evidenced crashes.

The use of safety cameras should be seen as a last resort measure, once all other justifiable solutions have been exhausted and so any concerns of speeding should be discussed with your Community Engagement Officer via the Highway Improvement Plan (HIP) process in the first instance.

There is also a common misconception about the income made from these cameras and it should be noted that Kent County Council does not receive any income from fines paid as a result of being caught speeding by a safety camera.



THANK
YOU

Thank you to those of you that were able to attend one of the two annual Parish Seminars held this year on 2 October and 20 November.

We welcomed the opportunity to speak with you and hope that you found it as worthwhile an experience as we did.

For those of you unable to make this years dates, we hope that you will be able to join us next year.

THIS QUARTER IN NUMBERS

Between October and December 2025, the Highway Improvements Team has carried out the following work in conjunction with Parish and Town Councils and County Members across Kent:

Parish/Town Council and County Member meetings – **80**

Number of HIP/Parish funded schemes delivered – **51**

Total value of KCC funded schemes (HIP budget) delivered – **£46,459**

Total value of Parish/ Town Council funded schemes delivered – **£80,040**

USEFUL LINKS

- [KCC Fault reporting tool](#)
- [KCC led consultations](#)
- [District Council services](#)
- [Kent Police reporting tool](#)
- [CrashMap UK](#)
- [DfT's Setting local speed limits](#)
- [Planned roadworks](#)
- [School travel plans](#)
- [Lorry Watch](#)
- [Community Speedwatch](#)
- [Kent & Medway Safety Camera Partnership](#)
- [Kent Road Safety](#)
- [Responsible Parking](#)

EASTRY BY-PASS, DOVER – CRASH REMEDIAL MEASURES (CRM) PROGRAMME

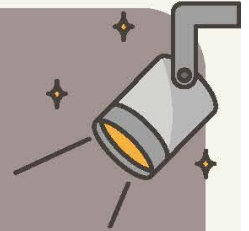
Eastry roundabout (where Dover Road joins the A256 Eastry Bypass) was identified during our annual review as a location where there had been a cluster of personal injury crashes. Kent County Council (KCC) designed and completed works that it considers will reduce the number and/or severity of future crashes.

The works were completed in August 2024, at and around the roundabout. These works included:

- Merging the second lane on the A256 northbound in advance of the roundabout and introducing more deflection on this approach. This we hope will reduce the speed of vehicles approaching the roundabout, prevent late lane changing and ensure that those vehicles going ahead will be in a single lane, removing the need for the two lanes to merge either on the roundabout or immediately on the exit from the roundabout.
- Installing hatch markings on the southbound approach and circulatory lane of the roundabout. This will encourage a single lane of vehicles through the roundabout and discourage overtaking until vehicles are clear of the roundabout and onto the two-lane dual carriageway.
- Implementing a 50 miles per hour speed limit on both A256 approaches to the roundabout and short lengths on other adjoining roads so that signs can be placed in locations more prominent to drivers and riders, rather than at junctions where their attention is on other traffic.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT: SAFER ROAD USERS BEHAVIOUR CHANGE TEAM



At Kent County Council (KCC) we have a statutory duty for road safety, meaning we collect and publish casualty data, analyse it to identify factors that can cause crashes and target audiences. The Safer Road Users Behaviour Change Team also provides information, advice and training to help road users make informed choices when they get behind the wheel.

Kent Road Safety's work focuses on educating road users about the responsibilities they have and the choices they should take when travelling on Kent's roads and how their actions can lead to crashes and casualties.



ROYAL AWARD

KCC has received a royal award for its work in boosting road safety awareness with young drivers and passengers.

The Kent Safer Road Users Team has been recognised with the 2024 Prince Michael International Road Safety Award. Prince Michael International Road Safety Awards recognise outstanding achievement and Innovation.

In approving the recommendation of the judges that the Kent County Council should receive his award for the Young Driver & Passenger Programme, His Royal Highness praised its "thoroughness and effectiveness", adding that he was impressed by how easily it can be replicated and delivered in other areas of the country.



Schools and colleges are able to teach the course to pupils and students as part of their post-16 PSHE curriculum.

KCC's Safer Road Users team leader, Lorna Smith, said: "We are exceptionally proud of the innovative facilitation we provide to Kent's young drivers and their passengers. This award is for everyone that has contributed to the programme creation, delivery and evaluation, but also for all the educational establishments that put their trust in us to support young people across the county."

KCC's Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, Neil Baker, said: "Royal endorsements are not given out on a frequent basis, and it serves as a testament to the hard work the Safer Road Users Team puts into make sure young people understand the risks when getting in a car. By engaging with young people, the team are ensuring road safety is at the forefront of people's minds not only today, but for the years ahead. It's a key part of our mission to ensure young people have the knowledge they need to keep safe. Congratulations to the team on this much-deserved prize – they are making a real difference on a daily basis."

The Prince Michael International Road Safety Awards ceremony took place at The Savoy Hotel in London on Tuesday 10th December 2024.

Collaboration

As you know, in each newsletter our aim is to give you an example of how we work collaboratively with other teams across Kent County Council, and externally, in order to provide the best service to Kent's residents via their elected representatives. This edition seeks to showcase the important work of the Safer Road Users Behavior Change Team, including how your Community Engagement representatives work with them to identify potential solutions in line with your highway improvement priorities.

Unfortunately, it is often difficult to implement engineering methods that will affect behavioural change. KCC's Vision Zero strategy sets out the 'Safe System Approach' which consists of looking at safe roads and streets, safe speed, safe behaviour, safe vehicles and post collision response. This approach is designed to build a more complete picture which understands that people make mistakes and aims to ensure these mistakes do not cause a death or a life-changing injury. This includes working with Kent Police to reduce driver behaviour that puts themselves and others at risk, such as distraction, impairment, inappropriate speed and other socially unacceptable behaviour, such as obstructive parking.

The Safer Road Users Behaviour Change Team also run a number of campaigns and training courses throughout the year, as well as provide toolkits to Parish and Town Councils as a way of underpinning engineering schemes through collaboration with education, training, publicity and enforcement for all road users. Further information on just some of these offerings is detailed below:

Campaigns - The Kent and Medway Safer Roads Partnership is running their **Winter Drink and Drug Drive** campaign from 12 December to 3 January on Facebook and Instagram. Digital advertising vans will also be in Maidstone and Canterbury on Friday or Saturday evenings on the two weekends before Christmas.

The overall aim of the campaign is to advise people not to drink and drive by getting them to think about the implications of not doing so e.g. slower reaction times, unlimited fine, driving ban, serious crash, and the impact of this on their home and working life. It asks them 'would you cope without your driving licence' and encourages them to consider if one drink is really worth it.



The drug drive creative also informs that the police can drug test at the roadside and a toolkit produced for this campaign can be found on-line at <https://kentroadsafety.info/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/KMSRP-Drink-Drive-TOOLKIT-PRINT-1.pdf>.

This proceeds the **Be Bright Be Seen** campaign, run in conjunction with the KM which launched early October. "Be bright be seen" is a crucial message for children and parents and our campaign promotes adding reflective tags to dark uniform, zips and school bags. This has been an annual activity promoted across the county for a number of years. 25,000 reflective tags have been issued this year to pupils as part of this campaign with radio and online articles reaching a wide number of young people and parents.



We all use the road in different and often multiple ways and we all have a responsibility to look out for each other. Car drivers can ensure that they have fully demisted and defrosted their windscreens and pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and motorcyclists should make themselves as visible as possible especially during the darker months.

Courses – The Safer Road Users Behavior Change Team's award winning **Young Driver & Passenger Course** is offered to Year 12 and Year 13 students across the county and consists of four virtual sessions plus a live Q&A Presentation session. The sessions are designed to influence the attitudes and behaviours of both young drivers and passengers who are currently over-represented in crash statistics.

In addition, the team recently hosted a webinar for parent/carers of young people who are learning to drive or have recently passed their test.

More information on the above, including for both young drivers and their parents/carers can be found at <https://kentroadsafety.info/what-we-do/young-driver-courses/>

A one hour **Road Sense** session is also run for years 7-9 and are age appropriate sessions that cover many aspects of the PSHE curriculum.

The team's **Mature Drivers** course is aimed at those 60+ and covers subjects such as vision, fatigue, why we crash, speed limits, eco driving and smart motorways.



Toolkits – The Highway Improvements Team (HIT) works with Safer Road User colleagues to offer a number of resources to support Parish and Town Councils to encourage safer driving through your towns and villages.



The most popular are our **speed toolkits**, which are designed to encourage compliance of 20 and 30mph speed limits by providing the tools, assets and information needed to successfully communicate this message and consists of posters, car stickers, bin stickers and road banners.

HIT has also recently engaged with the Safer Road Users Team on producing a toolkit that can be used to warn/ educate drivers of pedestrians and other vulnerable road users.



This has resulted in production of the **Share the road toolkit** which can now be provided to Parish and Town Councils to print out/utilise as you wish. The intention is that this toolkit will provide an alternative solution where 'Pedestrian in road' signs have been requested but may not be suitable (for example due to lack of verge space making sign installation difficult).

Please contact your Community Engagement Officer if you would like any of the above toolkits.

It may not always be possible to install a physical engineering measure in response to a community's concerns but your Community Engagement Officer will liaise with the Safer Road Users Team to determine what resources may be available to help communicate key messages to the local area.

Don't forget to also follow Kent Road Safety on social media; there are a variety of ongoing posts and campaigns that you are welcome to share and use in your communities.



PUFFIN CROSSING, ROCHESTER ROAD, GRAVESEND – LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN (LTP) SCHEME

As well as the Highway Improvement Team's Crash Remedial Measures Programme, which prioritises funding at locations where an engineering solution will have a positive impact on collision numbers, and the HIP budget which allows the team to assist Parish and Town Council's in funding smaller community-led schemes, we also have the opportunity to bid for Local Transport Plan (LTP) funding of up to £150,000 per scheme in the Autumn of each year.

In Autumn/Winter 2023, and in response to concerns from the local community, KCC's Safer Active Journeys Team produced a bid for an existing busy crossing point at the pedestrian traffic island on the A226 Rochester Road, Gravesend, opposite St John's Catholic Primary School, to be replaced with a puffin crossing.

Prior to this scheme being delivered, the crossing at St. John's Catholic Primary School was an uncontrolled crossing with two school crossing patrols assisting with school community crossings in the morning and the afternoon.

This is one of Kent's busiest sites in terms of pedestrian and traffic flow and, following repeated parking issues, traffic, and congestion concerns, a bid was made to upgrade the crossing to a signalised crossing which would provide 24-hour provision for the community.

Following a successful bid, the Highway Improvements Team was tasked with carrying out this work and the puffin crossing was installed over the summer holidays.

This new crossing has resulted in safer pedestrian movements across a busy carriageway, particularly benefitting children accessing the local schools and the elderly community by providing a safer link between the bus stops on either side of Rochester Road.



HAVE YOUR SAY

We value your feedback and would love to hear from you if you have any thoughts or suggestions as to what you'd like to see in future issues. Please complete this brief questionnaire which will allow us to ensure that our newsletters are providing you with the information that you would like to see.

[Have your say – Microsoft Forms](#)

NEW ROMNEY TOWN COUNCIL
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
29th JANUARY 2025
TRANSPORT FOR THE SOUTH EAST'S
DRAFT TRANSPORT STRATEGY CONSULTATION

Email from KCC received below:

Good afternoon,

We're pleased to announce that today Transport for the South East have launched the public consultation on our draft Transport Strategy.

As you will remember, you kindly gave us your views as part of our Your Voices survey earlier this year.

This has been instrumental in the development of our draft strategy, and we're pleased to share this document with you.

[Give us your views here](#)

You can watch a short overview video to [introduce our strategy here](#).

Our consultation will be open until March 7th 2025.

You can find out more and [view the draft Transport Strategy on our website](#).

We appreciate your ongoing engagement, and look forward to receiving your survey submissions to help us shape our final document.

If you any further questions please get back in touch with us at tfse@eastsussex.gov.uk

END