

Kent Resource Partnership

Annual Report – 2017/18





For general enquiries or if in doubt as to whom to contact for any of the 13 Kent councils:-

Paldeep Bhatti, Kent Resource Partnership Manager,
c/o Sevenoaks District Council,
Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1HG

Tel: 01732 227128

Email: paldeep.bhatti@kentrp.org.uk

www.kent.gov.uk/krp

Contents

Foreword	4
Background	5
KRP Performance	6
KJMWMS – Strategy Refresh	9
Keep Kent Clean	10
Drive Down Litter	12
Joint Action Against Fly-Tipping	14
Engaging with the Resource & Waste Industry	16
What happens to Kent’s Discarded Material?	17
School Education Visits	18
Further Information & Contact Details	20



Foreword



*Cllr Rory Love
Chairman of KRP & Cabinet Member for Customers,
Communications & Digital Delivery, Folkestone & Hythe DC*



*Cllr Jill Anderson
Vice-Chairman of the KRP &
Deputy Mayor for Tonbridge & Malling BC*

2017/18 has been another busy year for the Kent Resource Partnership (KRP). This Annual Report summarises progress made by the 13 Kent councils against our Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy. It highlights performance, action and engagement activities of our Member councils while they provide recycling and waste, street cleansing, and environmental protection services to over 1½ million residents across Kent.

With over 708,000 tonnes of household waste resource handled by the 13 Kent councils, provisional figures show that only 1.1% was sent to landfill. 46.7% of Kent's household waste was sent for recycling and composting, and 52.2% was used to generate energy. Residual waste fell by 26kg per household.

The total costs of waste resource management for 2017/18 across the 13 Kent councils was just over £95 million; a decrease of £3 million compared to the previous year as the Kent councils seek even greater efficiency for Kent council taxpayers. This focus on value for money meant Kent's councils could invest a further £16 million in keeping our streets clean.

Among our actions this year were: a number of Keep Kent Clean initiatives, the 'Drive Down Litter' pilot project launch with external partners, our contribution to joint action against fly tippers including Kent's 'Operation Assist' day of action, and the Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy refresh. We have continued to engage with the resource & waste industry, and with schools, to improve our environment. And the KRP's Materials End Destinations Publication for 2016/17 provides transparency and accountability to our residents.

If you have any questions on our report or would like to find out more about the KRP, please contact the KRP Manager, Paldeep Bhatti. Email Paldeep.Bhatti@kentrp.org.uk or phone 01732 227128.

Background

The Kent Resource Partnership (KRP) is made up of the 13 Kent councils.

These are:- Ashford Borough Council, Canterbury City Council, Dartford Borough Council, Dover District Council, Folkestone & Hythe District Council, Gravesham Borough Council, Kent County Council, Maidstone Borough Council, Sevenoaks District Council, Swale Borough Council, Thanet District Council, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council and Tunbridge Wells Borough Council.

The purpose of the KRP is to deliver the following three strategic objectives:-

1. Deliver the Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (KJMWMS). This strategy had been adopted in 2007 to manage Kent's municipal waste. It has since been refreshed in 2012/13 to cover the period up to 2020;
2. Deliver financial and performance benefits to Kent taxpayers; and manage risks to finance and performance as appropriate; and
3. Contribute to, and set a national lead, in delivering projects that manage supply chain issues in the leanest and most effective ways; securing value from discarded materials; and proactively identifying innovation and excellent practices.



KRP Performance

Provisional figures for 2017/18 demonstrate the KRP continue its steady progress to targets outlined in its KJMWMS:- the residual household waste per household figure was **540.9 kg/h’hold** – an improvement to the previous year. **46.7%** of household waste was recycled & composted, **52.2%** to generate energy with as little as **1.1%** to landfill.

Table 1: NPI 191 – Residual Household Waste per Household (kg/h’hold)

Council	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	Perf. (compared to previous year)
Ashford Borough Council	695.2	438.7	350.6	370.4	354.3	327.2	-27.1
Canterbury City Council	473.4	433.6	425.0	465.2	460.1	470.5	10.4
Dartford Borough Council	620.9	626.0	598.6	618.5	634.3	619.2	-15.1
Dover District Council	339.1	364.6	373.7	394.4	374.8	343.6	-31.2
Folkestone & Hythe District Council	435.6	442.7	416.4	414.0	422.1	400.2	-22.0
Gravesham Borough Council	554.7	567.4	497.7	483.9	512.2	431.7	-80.5
Maidstone Borough Council	424.5	443.4	424.2	441.5	420.7	403.6	-17.1
Sevenoaks District Council	582.6	589.5	596.3	596.1	567.4	558.9	-8.5
Swale Borough Council	560.4	519.5	491.3	520.0	498.6	490.3	-8.4
Thanet District Council	502.1	473.1	468.9	483.9	475.8	452.5	-23.3
Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council	539.3	553.8	556.7	569.0	563.1	548.3	-14.8
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	512.1	526.9	515.8	523.2	479.2	471.2	-8.0
KRP	598.6	580.0	567.3	584.5	567.0	540.9	-26.1

Source: Waste Data Flow (provisional figures for 2017/18 and are subject to change. Final figures, including national figures, to be published by Defra at the end of 2018).

Table 1 (above) reflects residual waste decreasing per household, which is positive. Looking at future trends, it is possible the volume of waste may increase due to an increasing population and growing economy. It is forecast an average of 8,600 houses would be built annually until 2031. This would result in a population growth of 23% over 20 years (from 2011) and 17% growth from 2015.

This places greater emphasis on the role of minimising waste. The KRP will continue to work with the resource & waste industry with a good example being Courtauld 2025 – tackling avoidable food waste. The KRP will continue to drive further efficiencies through the power of partnerships, whilst delivering high quality services to Kent taxpayers.

Table 2: NPI 192 – Percentage of Household Waste Recycled & Composted

Council	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	Perf. (compared to previous year)
Ashford Borough Council	11.9%	41.9%	55.3%	53.1%	55.0%	56.6%	1.6%
Canterbury City Council	42.9%	48.5%	48.4%	43.2%	44.4%	43.5%	-0.9%
Dartford Borough Council	27.0%	26.6%	27.6%	25.6%	25.2%	25.2%	0.0%
Dover District Council	45.4%	44.2%	42.4%	41.7%	44.7%	47.3%	2.6%
Folkestone & Hythe District Council	45.8%	44.6%	47.6%	44.0%	42.5%	45.3%	2.8%
Gravesham Borough Council	24.5%	24.5%	34.2%	35.0%	34.5%	40.7%	6.2%
Maidstone Borough Council	45.4%	46.6%	49.1%	47.8%	49.9%	51.1%	1.2%
Sevenoaks District Council	32.3%	32.8%	33.4%	31.9%	38.3%	38.1%	-0.2%
Swale Borough Council	32.2%	34.2%	40.3%	36.9%	41.6%	41.2%	-0.4%
Thanet District Council	26.8%	30.3%	33.9%	31.6%	33.8%	34.9%	1.1%
Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council	43.3%	43.1%	42.4%	41.5%	42.5%	41.7%	-0.8%
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	46.0%	46.3%	46.7%	45.6%	49.1%	48.4%	-0.7%
KRP	41.0%	43.6%	45.6%	44.1%	46.3%	46.7%	0.4%

Source: Waste Data Flow (provisional figures for 2017/18 and are subject to change. Final figures, including national figures, to be published by Defra at the end of 2018).

Table 2 (above) shows the KRP’s recycling & composting performance over the past six years. The KRP’s recycling & composting performance for 2017/18 was 46.7% - an increase of 0.4%, compared to the previous year. This was a great achievement for the KRP given heavy snow conditions across Kent during February and March 2018.

Six Kent councils saw their own performance improve, compared to the previous year. The biggest success came from Gravesham BC. In June 2017, Gravesham BC changed from its weekly service to alternative weekly for residual and recycling collections. This saw recycling performance jump an impressive 6% points. With further joint working opportunities expected over the coming years, the KRP remains confident of achieving its 50% target by 2020/21.



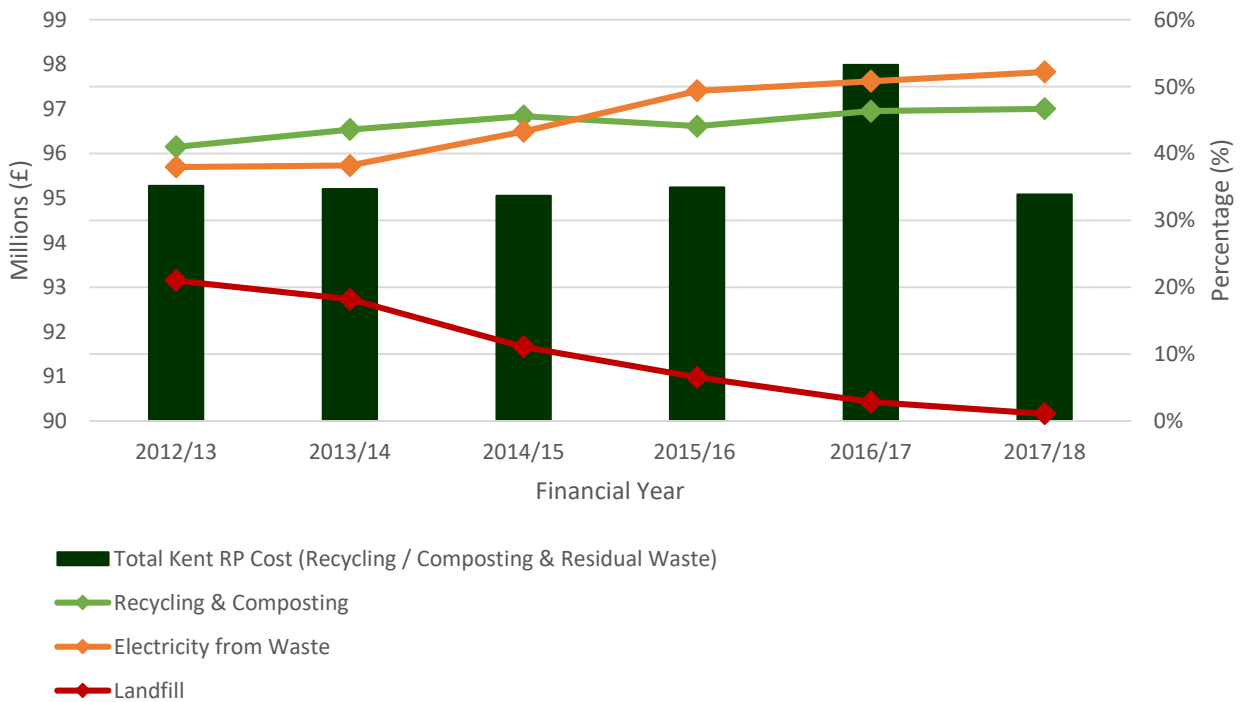
Table 3: NPI 193 – Percentage of Municipal Waste sent to Landfill

Council	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	Perf. (compared to previous year)
County Wide Total	21.0%	18.2%	11.1%	6.5%	2.8%	1.1%	-1.7%

Source: Waste Data Flow (provisional figures for 2017/18 and are subject to change. Final figures, including national figures, to be published by Defra at the end of 2018).

The KRP’s landfill diversion rate is 98.9%. Table 3 (above) tracks the KRP’s achievements over the last six years. Whilst the KRP has surpassed its own target five years ahead of schedule, the aim continues to sustain high level performance and get to a 100% landfill diversion rate, if possible.

Table 4: Overall KRP Performance vs Cost – 2012/13 to 2017/18



Source: Waste Data Flow & the 13 Kent councils

Table 4 (above) reflects the KRP’s total cost of waste resource against its performance over the last six years. It is noted the total cost of waste resource managed for 2017/18 was just over £95million – £3million less than the previous year. For 2017/18, on average this equates to £149 per household, per year. Breaking this down further, that’s an average cost of £2.87 per household, per week. 2017/18’s total cost is amongst the lowest overall costs incurred across the 13 Kent councils over the six year period, as highlighted above.

Over £16million was also invested in keeping our streets clean – this mirrors similar costs for previous years.

KJMWMS – Strategy Refresh

As a bit of background in 2007, the KRP first adopted its original KJMWMS – this strategy set out how Kent would manage its resource materials and waste from households up to 2020/21. Since then, the KRP has refreshed its KJMWMS in 2012/13 with a view to refresh again in 2016/17. In February 2016, KRP Members decided to delay its refresh for the following reasons: -

- Kent CC were taking forward its Waste Disposal Strategy for 2017-2035;
- The European Commission had published proposals in December 2015 that would change the European Waste Framework Directive 2008. Extensive debate and changes were expected in terms of the UK, the additional issue of the EU Referendum was considered a factor at that time; and
- The current KJMWMS targets, policies and objectives remained valid.

This year has seen the KRP begin this refresh process. This process began in September 2017 with KRP Members & Officers workshop. KRP Members & Officers were provided an opportunity to agree the scope of the refresh as well as consider the longer-term direction of the KRP.

A six week KJMWMS consultation took place from 19 March to 27 April 2018. It was made available to any individual or organisation who wished to respond with a particular focus on responses from the resource & waste industry. During the KJMWMS consultation, a total of 29 responses were received. These responses ranged from the KRP's key stakeholders locally and across the resource & waste industry. Responses helped sharpen a final refreshed KJMWMS. Each of the 13 Kent councils' are now expected to formally adopt via their own respective decision-making bodies by the end of 2018.



Keep Kent Clean

2017/18 has seen the KRP continue to work hard to drive down litter across the County. This has included delivering a 'Keep Kent Clean' initiative in October 2017 and participating in the 'Great British Spring Clean' national initiative in March 2018, led by Keep Britain Tidy. Kent-wide activities included: community litter picks, deep cleans, high-speed roads litter picks, anti-litter signage across Kent and social media messaging using #KeepKentClean.

Combining both initiatives, it was estimated 2,574 bags of litter was collected. 1,495 bags by the KRP via community groups and parish & town councils and 1,079 bags from Highways England. Fundamental reasons for these successful initiatives were all 13 Kent councils working together, including with key partners and its residents who volunteered their time to help keep Kent clean. Successes on social media saw #KeepKentClean reach an estimated 103,000 accounts during March 2018 too.





Drive Down Litter

On 21 June 2018, the 13 Kent councils jointly launched its ‘Drive Down Litter’ pilot campaign with the following partners: - Hubbub, Highways England, RoadChef, Costa Express and Shell. The collaborative roadside litter pilot campaign is trialling a number of interventions, nudge techniques and communications for six months in order to tackle roadside litter in Kent service stations and on nearby motorways and slip roads. The two sites involved are RoadChef Maidstone services on M20 and Shell petrol forecourt at Stop 24 services in Folkestone.

The pilot campaign’s objectives are:-

- Make a connection and raise awareness of the issues of roadside litter;
- Change behaviour and nudge road users to bin or recycling their litter;
- Make a transformation and to evidence whether these interventions could be rolled out across further services stations in the UK.

The launch gained positive media coverage and interest, particularly with regards to the deposit return machines set up at the RoadChef Maidstone services – these machines looked to encourage users to recycle their plastic bottles and coffee cups.

The levels of littering would be analysed against baseline data throughout the pilot campaign period and at the end. Findings from the pilot campaign are likely to be made available at the start of 2019/20.





Joint Action Against Fly-Tipping

Dovetailing with joint action against litter, the KRP has continued its progress against enviro-crime activities such as fly-tipping. The Kent Environmental Crime Practitioners Working Group (KECPWG) – which consists of representatives from all 13 Kent councils environmental enforcement teams – has gone from strength to strength. Intelligence has continued to flow across all Kent councils, as well as working smarter with key partners such as Kent Police, Environment Agency, National Farmers Union, Neighbourhood Watch and neighbouring Local Authorities outside of Kent etc.

In July 2017, the KRP agreed to a two year pilot project which funded a dedicated Intelligence Analyst role to develop an intelligence-led way of working and to support the KECPWG with identifying organised criminal groups who are taking forward enviro-crime activities. A dedicated Intelligence Analyst was in post by October 2017.

Early successes has seen 1870 intel reports for 2017/18 – over 50% more reports compared to the previous year; improved quality of intel reports; weekly intelligence bulletins for the KECPWG to raise awareness of ‘live’ incidents and investigations; joint working and sharing best practice across Kent councils and smarter ways of working with key partners.

The agreed critical success factors for this pilot were to:-

- Create a culture shift to an ‘intel led’ approach;
- Increase the quality & volume of intelligence; and
- Create hotspot analysis & profile of Kent (on a district by district basis)

The KRP are on schedule to deliver against these critical success factors.





A catalyst for further joint working has been the ‘day of action’ delivered on 20 June 2018 which focussed on tackling enviro-crime activities using intelligence. The day of action - also known as ‘Operation Assist’ - was supported by the 13 Kent councils, Kent Police and the National Farmers Union (NFU).

The main aims for the day were to disrupt prolific fly tipping in Kent, while engage closely with key partners - including Kent Police. On the day, Operation Assist was heavily supported with 36 enforcement officers across the 13 Kent councils; 53 Police Officers; a silver tactical command centre set up; and 20 vehicles tracked on ANPR. The day was also actively supported by Cllr Rory Love (KRP Chairman), Matthew Scott (Kent Police and Crime Commissioner) and Chief Inspector Mark Weller. (picture above)

The key headlines included six arrests were made; six vehicles seized; 100+ vehicles stopped and searched; 19 people were reported to court for various offences and also saw two recognised organised crime groups disrupted. This joint action was the first of its kind and gained great media coverage. Similar principles and good practice are expected to be delivered as the norm in the future.



Engaging with the Resource & Waste Industry

Friday 22 September 2017 saw just over 100 delegates from across the resource industry attend the KRP's Annual Conference at its usual venue of the Canterbury Cathedral Lodge conference centre. The overarching theme was based on the circular economy and resource efficiency. There was a particular focus on what this meant for the resource industry and also to local authorities.

Delegates on the day were fortunate to hear presentations from high quality speakers from across the industry such as:- Robert Vaughan of Defra, Linda Crichton of WRAP, Martin Kersh of Foodservice Packaging Association, Professor Margaret Bates of CIWM, Ray Georgeson of Resource Association and Paul Vanston of INCPEN.

The Annual Conference offered a great opportunity for KRP Members and Officers, as well as others across the resource industry, to hear speakers views on issues of national and local relevance, and to provide views amongst each other on future direction in a much welcome open forum. Social media evaluation also saw #KRPCConf reach an estimated 38,000 twitter accounts on the day.



What happens to Kent's discarded material?

In February 2018, the KRP published its Materials End Destinations Publication for 2016/17. This was the KRP's 6th publication in as many years and key findings highlighted the total amount discarded material collected by the 13 Kent councils was just over 731,000 tonnes. An impressive 79.0% of this total was treated within the County; 14.1% across other parts of the UK and as little as 6.9% was sent abroad for onward treatment. When comparing performance to the last five years, this demonstrates a high level of consistency in managing Kent's discarded material within Kent and the UK. This in turn, has continued to keep transport and environmental costs low for Kent residents.

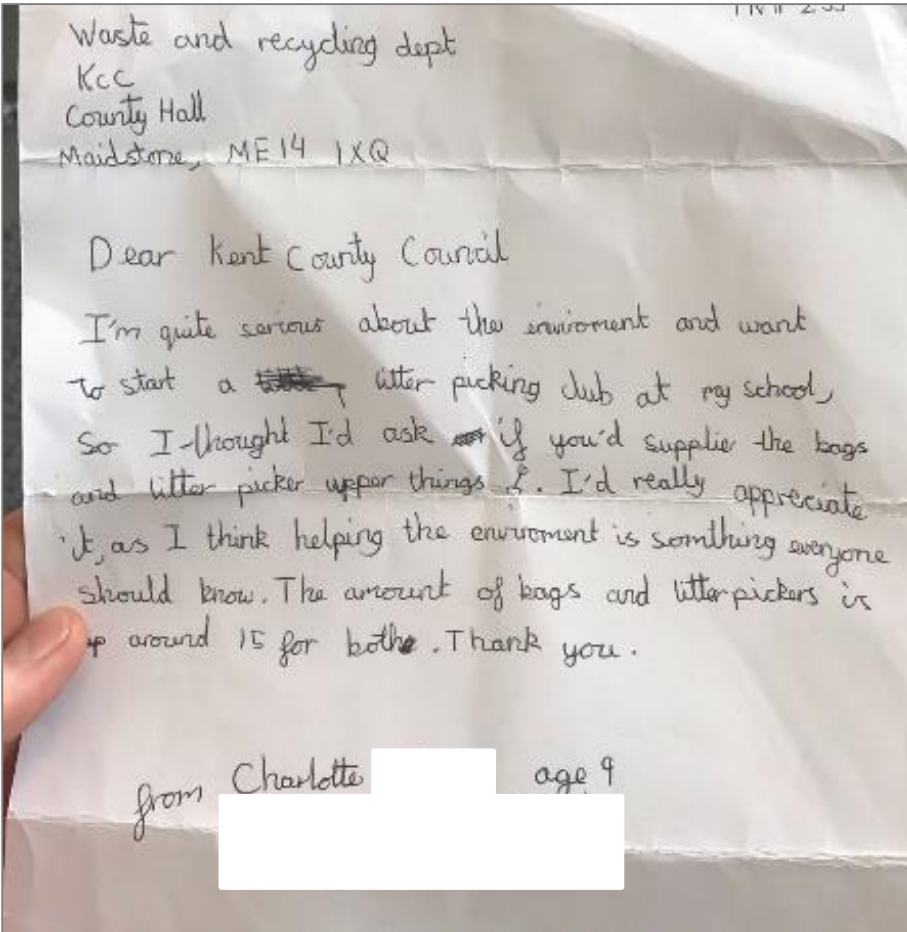
Full details on the latest KRP's Materials End Destinations Publication – including a council-by-council breakdown – can be found [here](#).



Over the past year, KRP Members & Officers have also taken time to carry out a number of local site visits – this provided a first hand opportunity to see how Kent's discarded material is processed and where it actually ends up. Site visits were to FCC Environment's Energy from Waste (EfW) facility at Allington, and Viridor's Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) at Crayford.



School Education Visits



In June 2017, Charlotte (aged 9) – a pupil from Sussex Road Primary School in Tonbridge - penned a letter to Kent CC's Waste Management team to ask for some 'litter picker uppers' to help her and her friends keep their school grounds clean.

Later that month, Kent CC worked together with Tonbridge & Malling BC (as the litter authority), to surprise Charlotte and her sister with 15 litter pickers, a box of sacks, mini hi-viz jackets and 15 rubbish bag hoops.





In August 2017, Thanet DC challenged primary school pupils to create new mascots to help educate its residents about being responsible with their recycling & litter. Over 150 designs were submitted with four new mascots chosen by the council to feature in its educational booklet. The mascots also were shared on councils' vehicles which travel across the district.

In November 2017, Gravesham's St John's Catholic Primary School won a £500 prize and was named a county recycling champion after topping the leader board in a home recycling challenge which was available to 100 schools across Kent. The school's project attracted 610 entries – an impressive 85% participation.

One of the competition saw pupils and their families register to receive a challenge poster. Pupils were then encouraged to find out what could be recycled locally in their area by providing their post code into a recycling locator. Items were then readily available to decorate their poster with the items they could recycle from their homes.

This programme was jointly delivered by Kent CC, Gravesham BC, Viridor and Wastebuster.



Further Information & Contact Details

KRP Members Board and senior managers (as at time of print);

Ashford Borough Council	CLlr Clair Bell	Tracey Butler
Canterbury City Council	CLlr Neil Baker	David Ford
Dartford Borough Council	CLlr Steve Brown	Sheri Green
Dover District Council	CLlr Nicholas Kenton	Roger Walton
Folkestone & Hythe District Council	CLlr Rory Love CLlr Stuart Peall	Roger Walton
Gravesham Borough Council	CLlr John Knight	Nick Brown
Kent County Council	CLlr Michael Payne	David Beaver
Maidstone Borough Council	CLlr Derek Mortimer	Jennifer Shepherd
Sevenoaks District Council	CLlr Matthew Dickins	Richard Wilson
Swale Borough Council	CLlr David Simmons	Martyn Cassell
Thanet District Council	CLlr Jason Savage	Gavin Waite
Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council	CLlr Jill Anderson	Robert Styles
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	CLlr Ronen Basu	Gary Stevenson

Website: www.kent.gov.uk/krp

For general enquiries or if in doubt as to whom to contact for any of the 13 councils:

Paldeep Bhatti, Kent Resource Partnership Manager,
c/o Sevenoaks District Council,
Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1HG,
Tel: 01732 227128
Email: paldeep.bhatti@kentrp.org.uk

Published by the Kent Resource Partnership on behalf of the following KRP constituent councils:-

Ashford BC, Canterbury CC, Dartford BC, Dover DC, Folkestone & Hythe DC, Gravesham BC, Kent CC, Maidstone BC, Sevenoaks DC, Swale BC, Thanet DC, Tonbridge & Malling BC and Tunbridge Wells BC.

Information in this publication may be used without charge and without licence subject to the original context for information being maintained and “Kent Resource Partnership” being accredited as the source.

Publication Date: September 2018.

© Copyright 2018 of Sevenoaks District Council on behalf of the Kent Resource Partnership