Agenda Item No: 16

Date:

Report To: Joint Transportation Board

8TH DECEMBER 2009

Report Title: Response to Petition Submitted Regarding a Bus Service

at Brisley Farm, Ashford

N/A **Report Author:**

Summary: A petition was submitted to ABC's full Council Meeting on the

8th October 2009 regarding a lack of a bus service serving the Brisley Farm Estate, Ashford. The attached letter sets out the

response from Kent Highway Services.

Key Decision: NO

Affected Wards: Washford

Recommendations: The Joint Transportation Board is asked to note the

response to the petition from Kent Highway Services.

Policy Overview: N/A

Financial

Implications:

None at this stage

Risk Assessment N/A

Other Material

Implications:

None at this stage

Background

Papers:

Petition submitted to Ashford Borough Council – 8th October

2009

Contacts: N/A Mrs Halliday

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Kent Highway Services

Invicta House County Hall Maidstone Kent ME14 1XX

Contact us at:

www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Telephone: 08458 247 800 Ask for: Stephen Gasche

Reference HQ 155

Date: 12 November 2009

Dear Mrs Halliday

Re: Petition presented to Ashford Borough Council requesting provision of a bus service to Brisley Farm Estate, Ashford

Thank you for your petition which was submitted to Ashford Borough Council at its meeting held on 8 October 2009 requesting the provision of a bus service to Brisley Farm Estate, Ashford and was received here on 23 October 2009. I have asked officers in my directorate to investigate the issue raised in your petition.

Kent County Council's (KCC) Transport Integration Team has met with Kent Coach Tours, the operator of the existing route 13 which serves the south-west area of Ashford. Together with this operator, KCC is considering a revision to this route which would include serving the Brisley Farm Estate. Whilst KCC cannot confirm any precise details about the exact route and timetable at present, the Council would hope to introduce these changes early in the New Year.

Unfortunately there does not appear to be any funding arrangement by the developer of the Brisley Farm Estate to help fund such a bus service, which means that KCC would have to meet the full cost of the additional revenue support required to operate it. However, I do understand the need for a bus route to serve the residents of your estate, and I am hopeful that KCC will be able to meet your aspirations as soon as suitable arrangements can be put in place.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Bruce Interim Director Kent Highway Services