



# Thames Gateway Kent Newsletter

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## Thames Gateway Kent Partnership News

We are delighted to announce the success of TGKP's **Regional Growth Fund** bid for the **TIGER Thames Gateway Innovation, Growth and Enterprise** programme, with £20.5million allocated to North Kent and Thurrock. We will now be undertaking due diligence and intend to launch the scheme for business applications for interest-free loans in April 2013.

There was a **Thames Gateway Kent Officers' Group** meeting on 16 October and items on the agenda included an update from the Environment Agency on the Thames Estuary 2100 strategic flood management plans and a more detailed discussion and update on the £2 billion Paramount theme park investment proposed for Swanscombe Peninsula, which could bring up to 27,000 jobs to North Kent.

The **Thames Gateway Kent Employment & Skills Task Group** held its first meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> October and partners have agreed that there is merit in developing some key actions to address the issues, including improving communication about apprenticeships and implications of raising of the school leaving age and liaising with business over their skills needs. There is to be a sector conversation organized for the advanced manufacturing and engineering companies across Kent & Medway in February and further details will be available on the TGKP website in due course.

## North Kent News

Dartford crossing toll increases take effect from 7<sup>th</sup> Oct with car tolls rising from £1.50 to £2. [BusinessCar](#) 5<sup>th</sup> Oct

The London Mayor steps up his campaign for a Thames Estuary airport or to the expansion of Stansted if this is eventually ruled out. [Echo](#) 9<sup>th</sup> Oct

CentreForum report says the Thames Estuary airport proposals are not practical and would present greater environmental challenges than Heathrow [Thurrock Gazette](#) 11<sup>th</sup> Oct

A third runway would mean more pollution deaths than a Thames Estuary airport, [BBC News](#) 13<sup>th</sup> Oct

A survey of FT 100 companies reveals that 68% of Chairmen support an additional runway at Heathrow [The Telegraph](#) 13<sup>th</sup> Oct

The new Gravesend town pier pontoon officially opens and hopes to contribute to tourism and the regeneration of the town [Gravesend Reporter](#) 16<sup>th</sup> Oct

The Queenborough & Rushenden Gateway on Sheppey is giving excluded youngsters a second chance at an education [Kent Online](#) 16<sup>th</sup> Oct

The business centre, Basepoint Dartford holds an event to celebrate its first year of operations. [Your Canterbury](#) 17<sup>th</sup> Oct

An out-of-work plasterer in Sittingbourne takes desperate measures to find a job by advertising on a roundabout. [Kent Online](#) 16<sup>th</sup> Oct

Gatwick airport bosses say expansion there is a better option than any of the other airport solutions. [Daily Mail](#) 17<sup>th</sup> Oct

Bluewater sees the opening of the UK's first Bjorn Borg underwear store, as well as jewellers Chisholm Hunter. [Just Style](#) 19<sup>th</sup> Oct [Professional Jeweller](#) 29<sup>th</sup> Oct

The Kings School at Rochester is to take over the Stirling sports centre. [Rochester People](#) 19<sup>th</sup> Oct

Tributes pour in for Cllr Mike Snelling, former Leader of Gravesham Borough Council. [Kent News](#) 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct

A four runway mega hub proposed at Stansted airport. [Evening Standard](#) 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct

Sittingbourne's SWEEP Kuusakoski installs the world's first glass furnace capable of recovering pure glass and lead from leaded CRT glass [Lets Recycle](#) 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct

Medway Council plans to convert Eastgate House in Rochester High Street into a tourist site with galleries and exhibitions. [Medway Messenger](#) 25<sup>th</sup> Oct

Angler catches his biggest fish in 38 years at Denton near Gravesend and has it for his tea. [Evening Standard](#) 29<sup>th</sup> Oct

The University of Greenwich installs glycerol boiler for biofuel studies [CleanTech](#) 31<sup>st</sup> Oct

London and Medway politicians debate proposals for a Thames Estuary airport [BBC](#) 31<sup>st</sup> Oct

Edinburgh House submit planning application for Gravesend Heritage Quarter [News Shopper](#) 12<sup>th</sup> Nov

## Thames Gateway-wide News

A second consultation is to be launched into new Thames crossings in Greenwich and Bexley. [News Shopper](#) 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct

Castle Point Regeneration Partnership is looking to create a £2.1million Business Enterprise Centre in Canvey with South East Local Enterprise Partnership Growing Places Funds [Echo](#) 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct

Port of Tilbury provides funding for the Gravesend to Tilbury passenger ferry service [Your Thurrock](#) 31<sup>st</sup> Oct

Consultations launched for Dartford free flow [Traffic Technology](#) 1<sup>st</sup> Nov

