

CONFIDENTIAL



COMMUNITY

Services Consultation

Introduction

Why

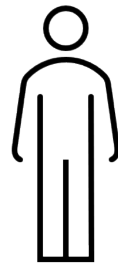
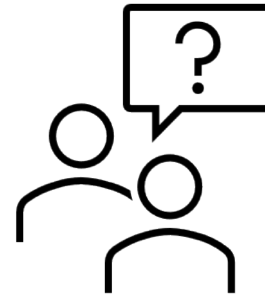
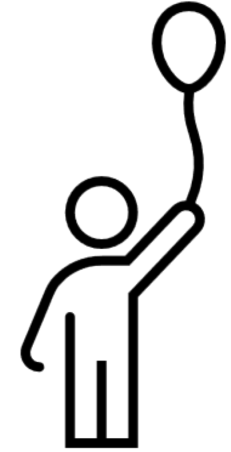
How

What

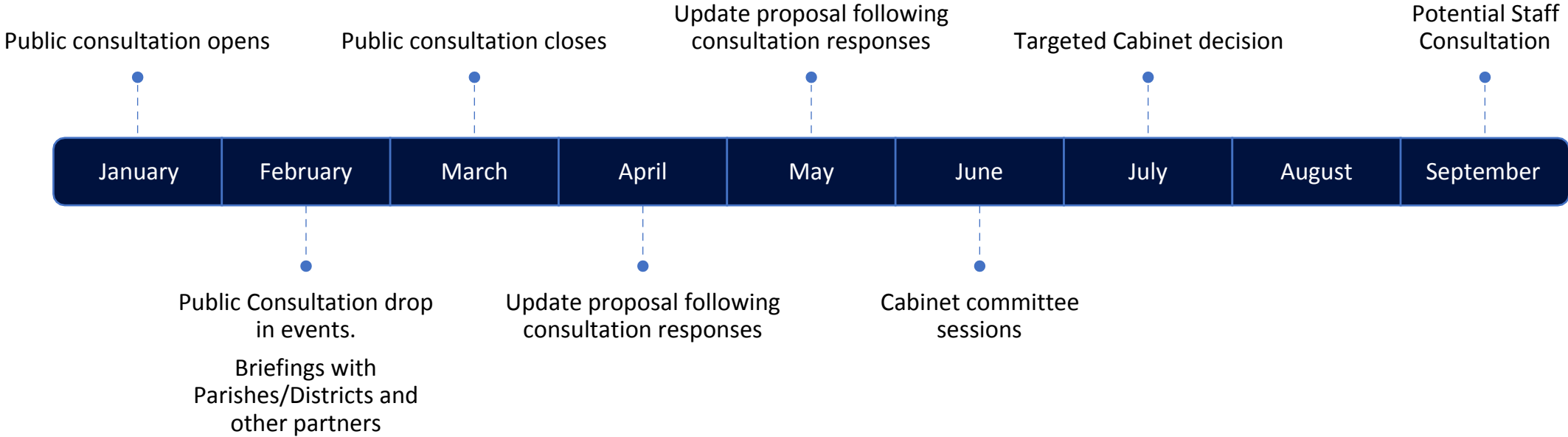
Next steps

The services included in these proposals are:

Community Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities
Community Learning and Skills
CYPE Open Access services (Children's Centres and Youth Hubs)
Public Health (Health Visiting and CYP Counselling)
Gateways



Timeline



Implementation to begin early 2024 subject to potential Judicial Review period and staff consultation.

Drivers for change and alternative approaches

- ✓ **Reduce the high costs** associated with maintaining a large number of buildings.
- ✓ **To find savings** so that we can balance the budget.
- ✓ **To meet the commitments we made** in our Net Zero action plan by 2030.
- ✓ **To provide effective support** to residents in need of our services.

Alternative Option 1

Close the buildings that are the most expensive to run

Alternative Option 2

Close the buildings which are the most environmentally inefficient

Alternative Option 3

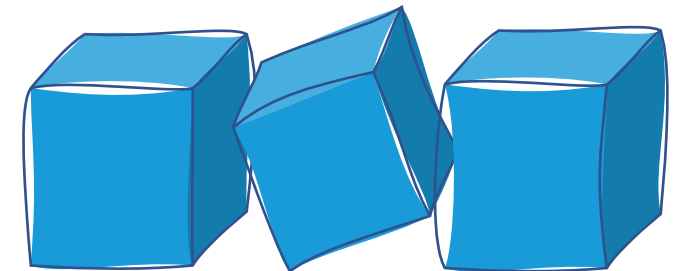
Close the buildings with the highest market value, meaning they would have the highest financial return if they were sold

Alternative Option 4

Do nothing

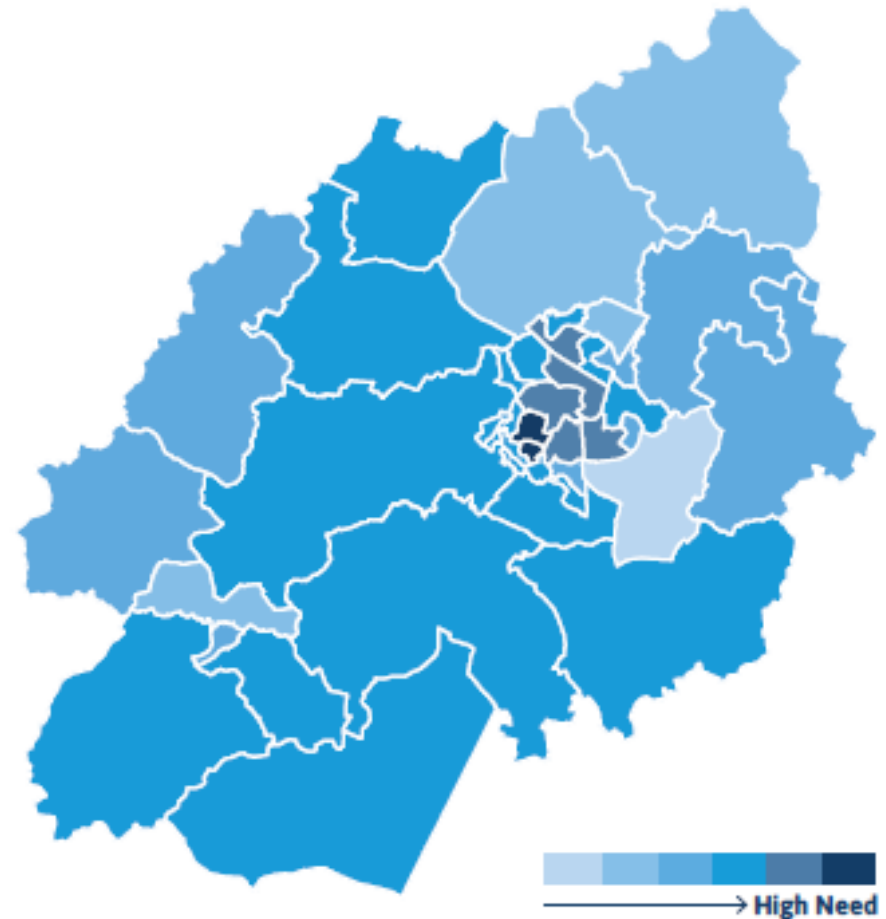
What will these proposals achieve?

Benefit	Notes
Revenue saving of between £5.6m and £6.9m	In line with MTFP savings targets. £1.6m is Corporate Landlord, between £4m and £5.3m is owned and delivered by services. The savings include £4m reinvested into outreach provision.
Reduction of maintenance liability of at least £7.3m	Circa £42m maintenance requirement across in-scope buildings.
Anticipated capital receipts of up to £7.5m	Will be subject to our adopted disposal policy.
22% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from in-scope buildings	Represents 5% of our overall carbon emissions from our total operations.



The Design Method

- Create a needs framework using agreed data sets
- Discuss need and how best to meet it with services
- Agree design principals
- Audit the presence of our buildings in wards with high need
- Discuss and agree opportunities for colocation



**Kent
wide**



County-wide perspective by service

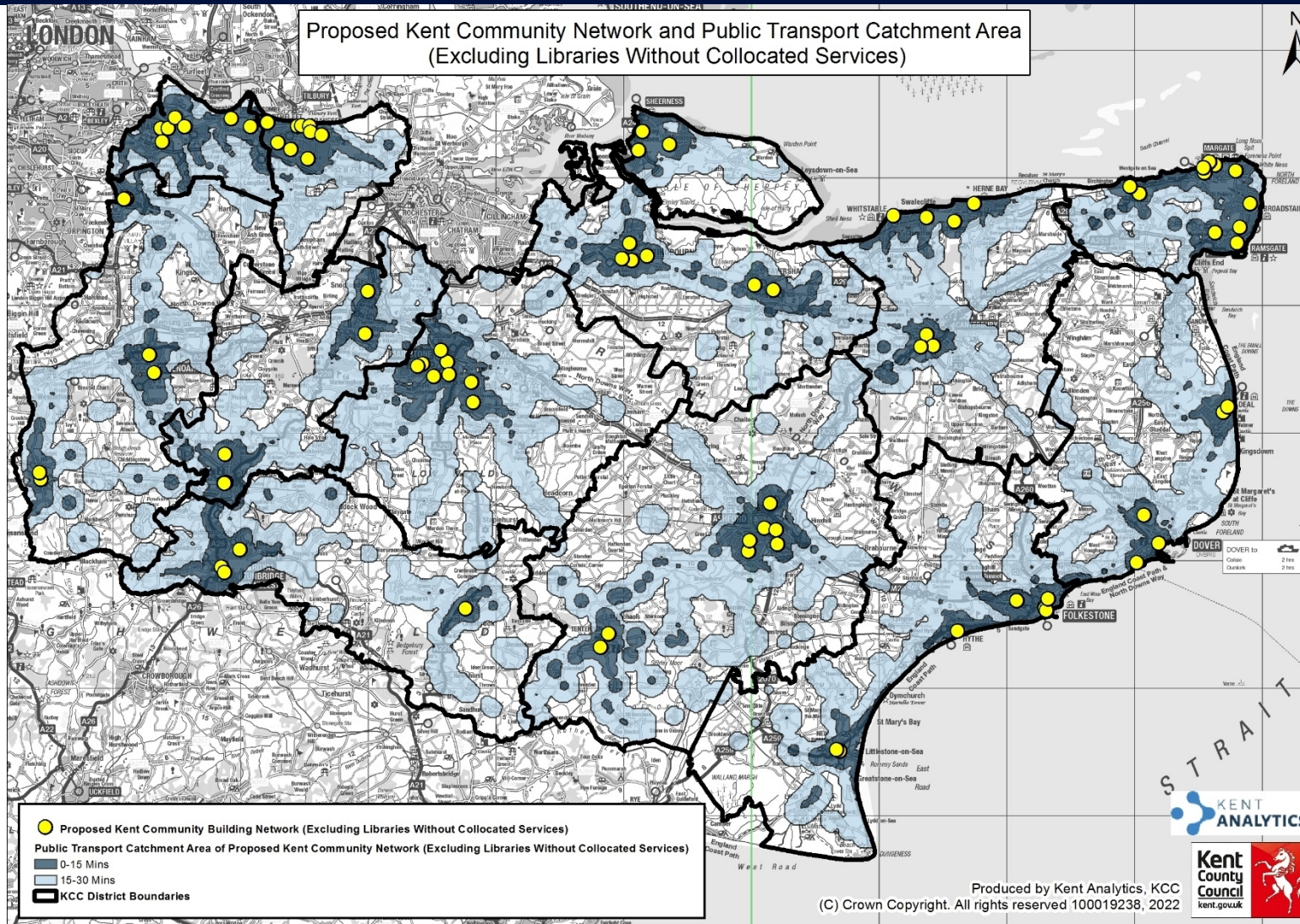
Subject to the public consultation, feedback from staff and further feasibility work

Service	Current Building Locations	Proposed Building Locations	Proposed Exits	Proposed Co-locations
Family Hubs (formerly Children Centres and Youth Hubs) – incorporating Public Health	80	46	38	7
CLS	14	13	1	7
Gateway	9	6	3	8
Adult Day Services	16	12	4	10

Many of the Children’s Centres we propose to exit are not open full time – for example Little Explorers in Ashford is only open Wednesdays and Thursdays and Swalecliffe in Canterbury is only partly open on Tuesday’s and Wednesdays. Some, like the Tina Rintoul Centre are already fully closed following the pandemic.

Access to our buildings

Being able to access a community building for support, even if not the specific service they need, will be key for helping to connect the most vulnerable groups across the county.



94% of Kent households will be within 30 minutes travel time of at least one of our buildings, using public transport.

Folkestone & Hythe



Locality Design

Buildings we are proposing to deliver services from in Folkestone & Hythe

Folkestone & Hythe district by ward

Ward.

Building.

Family Hubs

2 Cheriton.

Caterpillars Children's Centre.

3 East Folkestone.

The Village Children's Centre.

4 Folkestone Central.

Folkestone Early Years Centre.

8 New Romney.

New Romney Children's Centre.

Community Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities

6 Hythe.

Bridge Resource Centre.

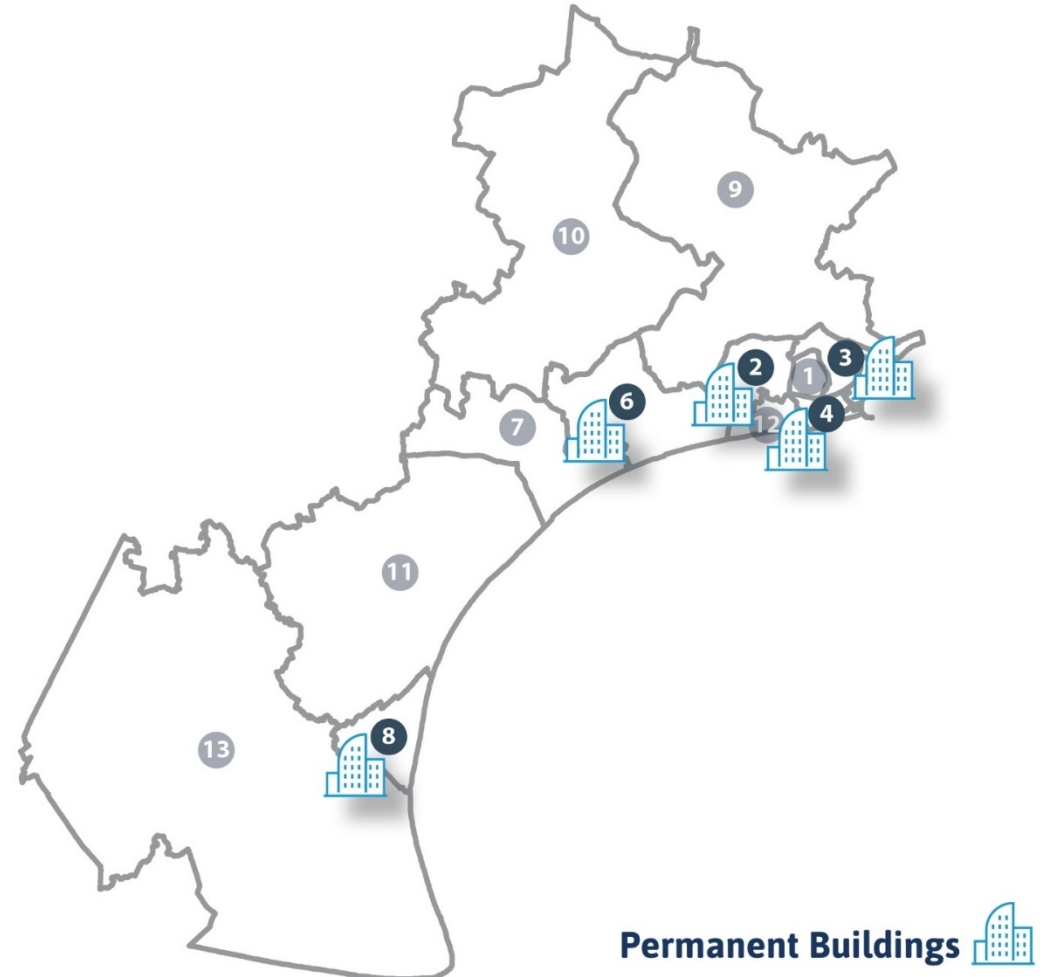
8 New Romney.

Phase II.

Community, Learning & Skills

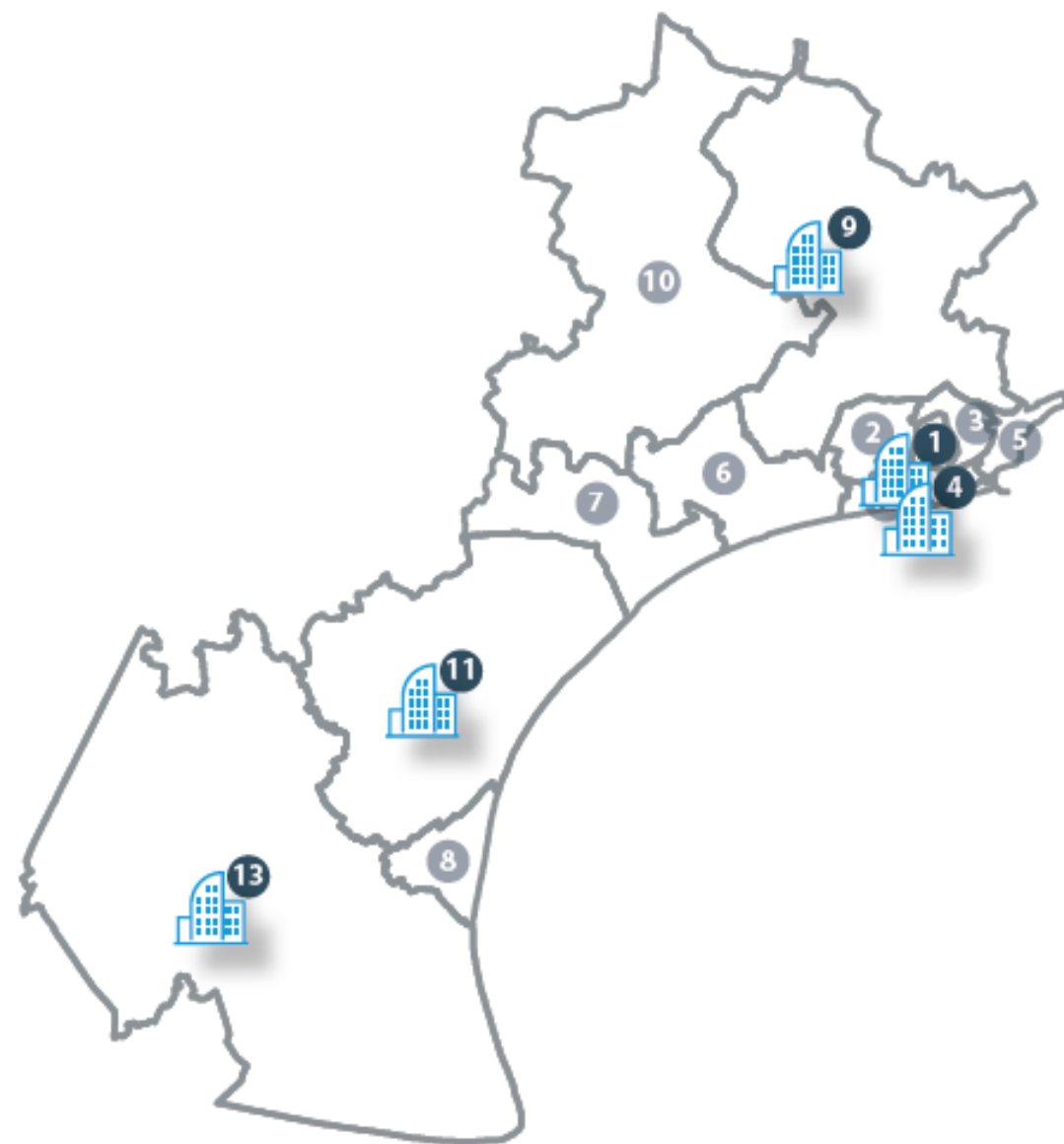
4 Folkestone Central.

The Cube.
The Pottery.



Buildings we are proposing to leave in Folkestone & Hythe

Ward.	Building.	Potential Outcome.
Childrens Centres and Youth Hubs		
4 Folkestone Central.	Five (Shepway Youth Hub).	Moving in to Folkestone Early Years Children's Centre.
9 North Downs East.	Hawkinge Childrens Centre.	
11 Romney Marsh.	Dymchurch Children's Centre.	
13 Walland and Denge Marsh.	Lyddle Stars Childrens Centre.	
Community Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities		
1 Broadmead.	Folkestone Sports Centre.	



Buildings Outreach Digital

- Financial pressures and **rising costs** mean that we need to use our estate **more efficiently**
- Co-locating services means that we are able to move out of, and eventually **dispose of buildings** surplus to requirements (in line with disposal policy)
- It has the potential to **improve resident experience** by reducing the need to visit different locations for multiple services
- We have tended to propose co-locations in communities with higher need for multiple services
- It has the potential to enhance how services work together to serve a community more holistically
- 2021/22 Budget Consultation **91% of respondents** agreed that we should deliver more than one service from a building

Buildings Outreach Digital

- Outreach is something we already do
- For some communities, it can be the **most effective** way of reaching our most **vulnerable residents**
- Outreach allows us to be **flexible in our response to need** as it arises

Buildings Outreach Digital

- We already have a digital offer
- For many residents, it's the **most convenient** way of getting **information about our services**
- A virtual offer means some residents have **better access** to the **help they need**
- Our digital offer needs to be expanded on and developed to **make it even better**

Follow-up

- Encourage responses to the consultation
- Encourage attendance to our drop-in events
- How else might we reach your community?

Drop in sessions for public:

Folkestone and Hythe

Tuesday 21st February – Folkestone Early Years Centre 4-8pm

Friday 24th February – Wood Avenue Library 10am-1pm

Consultation Feedback

Website: [Community Services Consultation | Let's talk Kent](#)

Email: communityservicesfeedback@kent.gov.uk

Questions

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