

**HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****Executive Decision Record**

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Environment and Transport
<b>Date:</b>	19 September 2017
<b>Title:</b>	Project Appraisal: A32 Farringdon Flood Alleviation Measures
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

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**1. The decision:**

- 1.1 That the Executive Member for Environment and Transport approve the Project Appraisal for A32 Farringdon Flood Alleviation Measures as outlined in the supporting report.
- 1.2 That approval is given to procure and spend and enter into necessary contractual arrangements to implement the proposed improvements to carry out survey and drainage works, as set out in the supporting report, at an estimated cost of £292,000 to be funded from the Flood Risk and Coastal Defence (FRCD) Programme budget.
- 1.3 That authority to make the arrangements to implement the scheme, including minor variations to the design or contract, be delegated to the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment.

**2. Reasons for the decision:**

- 2.1 In September 2016, approval was given by the Executive Member for Environment and Transport for the inclusion of Lower Farringdon and Chawton as a priority scheme in the 'Main Programme' of the County Council's Flood Risk and Coastal Defence (FRCD) programme.
- 2.2 Lower Farringdon has a long history of repeated flooding, primarily from groundwater sources. In the winter of 2013/14, groundwater rose in Lower Farringdon and mixed with surface water run-off from extensive rainfall, discharged onto the A32, and flowed towards the Lower Farringdon crossroads. Flooding lasted from the beginning of February 2014 to the end of April 2014. During this flood incident, approximately 18 properties or their curtilage were directly impacted with 10 internally flooded, and the A32 was closed for 2 months. This caused significant access and travel disruption to local residents and businesses.

- 2.3 Further flooding issues downstream of Lower Farringdon included flood waters effectively cutting off access to Chawton House, and surface water infiltration to combined sewer overflows in Chawton resulting in impacts on domestic sewage systems from the reduction in carrying capacity. Eight homes in the Chawton area were also affected by foul water disruption.
- 2.4 Following a series of investigations and assessments of the flood event, the County Council commissioned consultants to undertake a feasibility study to determine the causes of the flooding and investigate potential measures to alleviate flooding in Lower Farringdon and Chawton.
- 2.5 A package of proposed measures for Lower Farringdon and Chawton has now been developed that, once implemented, will better protect properties and the highway network, minimise the impact on the local economy, and reduce costs, distress, and disruption associated with any future flood event.
- 2.6 Delivery of the measures would contribute towards the County Council's Strategic Plan, Hampshire County Council's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy, and the catchment based approach to flood risk management in Hampshire.

**3. Other options considered and rejected:**

- 3.1 A 'do minimum' option was considered with the requirement to place sandbags and other emergency provisions to help protect residents, but this did not meet the objective of keeping the A32 open.
- 3.2 The option to deploy a temporary flood barrier when groundwater levels hit a trigger point was discounted as it would mean the A32 would have to operate signal-controlled one-way traffic, which was considered unsuitable for such a major highway.

**4. Conflicts of interest:**

- 4.1 Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None
- 4.2 Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None

**5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.**

**6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.**

**7. Statement from the Decision Maker:**

**Approved by:**

**Date:**

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**19 September 2017**

**Executive Member for Environment and Transport  
Councillor Rob Humby**