

# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Executive Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	10 October 2023
<b>Title:</b>	Driving Towards Economic Strength
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of H2050 and Assistant Chief Executive

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### 1. The decision:

That Cabinet:

- 1.1 Continues to note the potential impacts of the prolonged economic slowdown and confirm that supporting the Hampshire Economy remains a priority for the County Council, including continuing to invest in infrastructure and support businesses, during an extremely challenging time increasingly characterised by rising unemployment, increasing number of business failures, a prolonged period of flatlining growth with the economy possibly entering a mild recession later this year.
- 1.2 Note the analysis of the economic impact and issues highlighted which emphasises that the County Council continues to use its scale and influence to drive towards long term economic strength in Hampshire, through shaping and influencing the key priorities set out in the Economic Strategy approved by Cabinet in December 2022. This also includes the County Council's role in promoting place-based Regeneration and Growth Partnerships.
- 1.3 Agrees the proposals for a County-wide approach to governance and former LEP services and programmes post 31 March 2024 following the recent Government announcement that Upper-tier Local Authorities will take on the responsibility for LEP functions from April 2024.

### 2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. To provide Cabinet with an analysis of the economic impact and outline those issues that the County Council continues to use its scale and influence to contribute to the county and sub-region economic recovery going forward.

### 3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1. Not to note the issues raised or agree the County Council's approach to governance for former LEP services and programmes post 31 March 2024. This option was rejected as it would be against the best interests of the Hampshire economy.

**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: N/A**

**6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: N/A**

**7. Statement from the decision maker:**

**Approved by:**

**Date:**

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**Chairman of the Cabinet  
Cllr Rob Humby**

**10 October 2023**