

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Environment and Transport
Date:	24 April 2018
Title:	Air Quality in Hampshire
Report From:	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

Contact name: James Moore

Tel: 01962 846768

Email: James.moore@hants.gov.uk

1. The decision:

- 1.1. That the Executive Member for Environment and Transport notes the new Government approach to Air Quality and the actions required by the County Council as Highway Authority to cooperate with a Ministerial Direction placed upon District Councils, arising from the UK plan for tackling roadside nitrogen dioxide concentrations.
- 1.2. That subject to the availability of funding, authority is delegated to the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment, in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment and Transport, to progress with feasibility work for possible interventions to support this agenda, noting the need to advance work in the "shortest possible time".
- 1.3. That authority is delegated to the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment to make outline business case submissions to the Government for future air quality interventions, as well as funding bids, and also to negotiate and enter into memoranda of understanding as appropriate to deliver air quality interventions in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment and Transport.
- 1.4. That the Executive Member for Environment and Transport supports the strategic direction set out in the supporting report (paragraph 3.13).
- 1.5. That authority is delegated to the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment to make all necessary consultation and engagement arrangements on options considered, in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment and Transport.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. A Ministerial Direction has been passed to several District and Borough Councils in their capacities as environmental health authorities in areas that are anticipated by Government to have air quality exceedances of nitrogen dioxide over 40 micrograms per cubic meter (40µm³). The Direction requires

those Councils to develop outline and full business cases to attempt to bring the exceedances into compliance in the “shortest possible time”. The County Councils have not been named in the Ministerial Direction, but as highway authorities they have a role to play in addressing emissions of this nature. This is because almost 80% of such emissions can be attributed to road based transport nationally.

2.2. In order for the County Council as Highway Authority to actively cooperate and assist the district and borough councils to respond to the Government in this matter, it will be necessary to develop and advance business case work in the “shortest possible time”. The recommendations in this report are required in order to accomplish this.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1. Not assisting the environmental health authorities in meeting the direction has been considered but would be contrary to the general duty to co-operate and would lead to poor outcomes for the residents of Hampshire in terms of addressing air quality problems arising from transport emissions. The solutions will require some form of transport intervention, and highway authorities are therefore expected to work together with District Councils to address the problem, often using in-house skills not retained within the environmental health authorities.

4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1 Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker:

4.2 Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted:

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: ----- Executive Member for Environment and Transport Councillor Rob Humby	Date: 24 April 2018
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