

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Countryside and Rural Affairs
Date:	13 June 2019
Title:	Rural Affairs – Rural Programme update and future priorities
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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1. The decision:

That the Executive Member for Countryside and Rural Affairs:

- I. endorses the programme commitments (as set out in Appendix 1) as the most prudent way to maintain ongoing programme capacity and support development opportunities;
- II. recognises the early strength of applications to the PTCF and endorses the sustained governance via the Programme Board, and current promotional activities through District Associations;
- III. in response to the growing demands upon the RCF from rural communities (as set out in Appendix 2), supports a temporary increase of the funds current annual award limit from £85,000 to £120,000 for 2019/20;
- IV. welcomes the initial outcomes of the Col and on the evidence presented for the Rural Theme, and approves further work including the continued support to the National Rural Strategy with the RSN;
- V. supports the current negotiations with HALC in establishing a three-year agreement which will set out the formal relationship between both organisations starting 2020/2021;
- VI. supports ongoing discussion across the Rural Forum Steering Group in developing the groups profile and influence whilst also addressing a future funding gap.

2. Reasons for the decision:

2.1 The Rural Programme supports the Executive Member in tackling challenges in the delivery of rural services and on the relationship with Parish and Town Councils.

2 Other options considered and rejected:

2.1 None.

3 Conflicts of interest:

3.1 Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None

3.2 Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None

4 Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: None

5 Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: Not applicable

6 Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by:

Date:

13 June 2019

Councillor Edward Heron
Executive Member for Countryside and Rural Affairs