

# Public Document Pack

AT A MEETING of the Cabinet of HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL held remotely on Tuesday, 29th September, 2020

Chairman:

\* Councillor Keith Mans

- |                               |                                |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| * Councillor Rob Humby        | * Councillor Andrew Joy        |
| * Councillor Roz Chadd        | * Councillor Stephen Reid      |
| * Councillor Liz Fairhurst    | * Councillor Patricia Stallard |
| * Councillor Judith Grajewski | * Councillor Seán Woodward     |
| * Councillor Edward Heron     |                                |

Also present with the agreement of the Chairman: Councillor Carter, Glen, House, Huxstep, McNair-Scott, North, Oppenheimer and Warwick.

## 201. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

All Members were present and no apologies were noted

## 202. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter considered at the meeting they must declare that interest at the time of the relevant debate and, having regard to the circumstances described in Part 3, Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Personal interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 5 of the Code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

Councillor Woodward declared a personal interest in the Changes to the Planning System, Major Developments and Infrastructure Funding and the M27 Junction 10 Scheme Update items by virtue of being Leader of Fareham Borough Council. With regards to the latter, he indicated his intention to respond to any Cabinet Members' questions at the beginning of the item and then leave the meeting.

Councillor Heron declared a personal interest in the Changes to the Planning System, Major Developments and Infrastructure Funding and Waterside Vision items.

## 203. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and agreed.

## 204. **DEPUTATIONS**

A deputation was received from Anne Stephenson, representing the Hampshire Climate Action Network, with regard to the “Climate Change Action Plan 2020-2025”. Ms Stephenson welcomed the work that had been undertaken to prepare the action plan and noting the expertise within her organisation, highlighted a willingness to provide a link between the County Council and local people. She questioned why not all of the suggestions arising from the stakeholder forum had been included and highlighted the need to develop the action plan further with timescales and estimated costs and savings to guide prioritisation.

A deputation was received from Sarah Gooding, representing Winchester Action on Climate Change, with regard to the “Climate Change Action Plan 2020-2025”. Ms Gooding welcomed the commitment from the County Council to the climate change programme and noted the high attendance at the August stakeholder event, although had hoped for more analysis of the community proposals set out in appendix three. She suggested that the action plan needed more work to link it to the climate change strategy, to make it quantifiable and for actions to be prioritised according to carbon savings and cost.

The Leader thanked both of the deputees for their contribution.

## 205. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman highlighted the ongoing objective of reducing the spread of the virus, which could be achieved by supporting each other. The need for greater testing and laboratory capacity was recognised as essential to monitoring and isolating the spread. It was anticipated that home working would largely continue for many people and the risks of social isolation were recognised. The successful reopening of schools was welcomed and it was noted that attendance in Hampshire had been above the national average.

## 206. **A PROGRESS REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 CRISIS**

Cabinet considered a report of the Chief Executive regarding the County Council's response to the Covid-19 crisis.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor Keith House addressed Cabinet. Councillor House thanked all involved for the work that had been done to keep the country and the county running. He noted that most areas were back to business as usual, with some residual issues relating to phone access. In light of possible future restrictions, Councillor House hoped that decision making would be consistent and well communicated to avoid confusion and help to ensure a positive path to recovery.

The Chief Executive introduced the report, highlighting public health responsibilities and the outbreak control functions. It was noted that rates of infection in Hampshire were rising but still relatively low and that across the country there was a significant range. The current position of testing capacity was drawn to Cabinet's attention and recent decisions regarding fairs in

Hampshire were set out. It was confirmed that the County Council was working closely with District colleagues to ensure that events that did go ahead complied with their mitigation commitments. With reference to the report, other key developments across the Council were highlighted and it was noted that although the phone lines did not have their original capacity, there was a robust system of service delivery in place through a variety of contact methods.

Cabinet welcomed the report and recognised that a highly efficient service continued to be offered despite the difficulties that were being faced. The possibility of improving testing with a rapid result option was discussed and it was noted that all testing provision was currently limited by laboratory capacity.

Members wished to emphasise the ongoing importance of social distancing and the actions that everyone could continue to take to prevent wider spread and infection. A particular strength of the County Council's in-house adult care provision being able to take people out of hospital safely, avoiding onwards transmission was highlighted and welcomed.

The recommendations set out in the report were considered and agreed. A decision record is attached to these minutes.

## 207. **FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Corporate Resources providing an update on the financial position of the County Council.

With the agreement of the Chairman, Councillor House addressed Cabinet. He recognised that it appeared unlikely that the Government would now reimburse the full financial impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and therefore the situation would remain very difficult. The possibility of another lockdown, with potential additional financial pressures, was recognised and the importance of local government emphasising its position as a key driver of response and recovery was highlighted.

The report was introduced and a number of key areas drawn to Cabinet's attention. It was noted that concerns about medium term sustainability already existed when the budget was agreed in February. There was now a strong likelihood of a single year financial settlement from government, which may not take the significant levels of inflation in service delivery into account. The Covid-19 crisis had exacerbated existing pressures through the unexpected extension of services, loss of income and increase in demand. There had furthermore been delays to saving expected under T21 as a number of programmes had been paused. The losses and other financial impacts set out in the report were outlined and the urgent need for proper compensation was emphasised. It was confirmed that the scenarios set out did not include the potential for further lockdown.

Members welcomed the comprehensive and unambiguous nature of the report and acknowledged the position it set out. It was clarified that government reporting requirements were very specific to ensure that a consistent comparison between areas could be achieved.

The recommendations set out in the report were considered and agreed. A decision record is attached to these minutes.

## **208. ADULTS' HEALTH AND CARE – YEAR 2 STRATEGY PROGRESS**

Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Adults' Health and Care providing Cabinet with an update on the continued progress made by Adults' Health and Care over 2019/20 (the 2nd year) in relation to the Departmental Vision and 5 Year Strategy.

The report was introduced and it was confirmed that the three core priorities continued to provide a strong basis. Despite the challenges of recent months, service provision and relationships with partners remained strong and reliable.

Members welcomed the report and noted that all of the measures to achieve savings were also focussed on improving the quality of life for residents.

The recommendations set out in the report were considered and agreed. A decision record is attached to these minutes.

## **209. CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN 2020-2025**

Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment presenting the Hampshire County Council Climate Change Action Plan 2020-2025.

The report was set out and a number of key points were highlighted. It was confirmed that work was being carried out with the Carbon Trust to establish a baseline and the potential carbon savings hadn't been calculated for each individual action because of the complexity and resources required to do so. Decision making tools were also being developed with the Carbon Trust to allow the impact of decisions on climate change to be understood and taken into account. The Plan was structured around the Climate Change Strategy, on the basis of its overarching areas, but was only to 2025 to allow flexibility and responsiveness. Many of the actions within the Plan could not be progressed within the County Council's budget and the ability to deliver was dependent on government funding. With regard to the specific proposed action of investing the Hampshire Pension Fund in the green economy, it was clarified that this would require a decision of the Pension Fund Panel and not Full Council.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor Warwick addressed the meeting, highlighting the three components of strategy, plan and framework. She emphasised the value of community engagement in the process and suggested that a similar event could be held for parish and town Councils. Councillor Warwick noted the importance of the work with the Carbon Trust and praised the efforts of the team in reaching this stage.

Cabinet noted the guiding principle of "avoid, replace, reduce, offset" and were supportive of putting the County Council in the best possible position to bid for any government funding that became available, whilst also encouraging businesses and individuals to become more sustainable. It was recognised that

the Action Plan was a live document, which could be reviewed and incorporate new opportunities that arose. The high level of positive community engagement and input, through both the stakeholder event and through the deputations that had been received was welcomed. It was acknowledged that there was much more to do, but agreed that a strong starting position had been reached and that by embracing a realistic approach to change, genuine progress would be achieved.

The recommendations set out in the report were considered and agreed. A decision record is attached to these minutes.

## 210. **CHANGES TO THE PLANNING SYSTEM, MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS AND INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING**

[Councillor Woodward declared a personal interest as Leader of a District Council. Councillor Heron declared a personal interest as both a planning consultant and a member of a District Council]

Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment updating Cabinet on changes to the Planning System, Major Developments and Infrastructure Funding.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor House addressed Cabinet. He welcomed the report and highlighted a number of points regarding the dual planning and housing responsibilities of District councils. It was suggested that housing allocations would be better decided locally or regionally within a wider national target and recognised that developer contributions needed to be shared consistently.

The key aspects of the forthcoming changes arising through new legislation were highlighted with reference to the report. It was confirmed that the Government's new distribution formula has the effect of pushing development to more rural areas, which contradicts other policies. A number of major developments in Hampshire were set out. Members heard that there was an opportunity to take advantage of a return to Section 106 developer contributions, which had been successful in the past and therefore should be utilised for as long as possible.

Cabinet welcomed the report and supported a return to Section 106 funding as well as the progress of the major developments. Members agreed that local determination of housing need and distribution would better meet local requirements. There was concern that the changes would add to uncertainty and reduce the delivery of housing and also disappointment that the changes did not include a requirement for fibre broadband as an essential service.

The recommendations set out in the report were considered and agreed. A decision record is attached to these minutes.

## 211. **WATERSIDE VISION**

[Councillor Heron declared a personal interest as both a planning consultant and a member of a District Council]

Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment regarding the Waterside regeneration proposals.

Members welcomed and supported the statement of ambition for the area from the three relevant authorities and noted the opportunities for growth, sustainability and benefit to the community.

The recommendations set out in the report were considered and agreed. A decision record is attached to these minutes.

## 212. **M27 JUNCTION 10 SCHEME UPDATE**

Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment regarding the M27 Junction 10 improvement scheme.

In introduction to the report, the Director confirmed that the proposed local development could not be realised without significant improvements to the motorway junction. The County Council's position as scheme promoter and the funding of the scheme from the Solent LEP was clarified. It was noted that County Council resources for the design could not be committed beyond the funding that was available and there would be a need to review the position of scheme promotor at the end of phase three.

Councillor Woodward declared a personal interest as Leader of Fareham Borough Council. He noted that the report had been prepared prior to a funding offer from the Solent LEP. He emphasised the importance of the scheme and the risks of delay. He confirmed no work would be undertaken until necessary infrastructure was identified and funded and full funding for the scheme was in place. Following his statement, Councillor Woodward left the meeting.

Cabinet acknowledged the position set out in the report and were supportive of the scheme taking place, whilst recognising that full funding needed to be in place for it to go forward. It was noted that positive engagement was underway with the Solent LEP with regards their funding offer and that it was hoped that mutually acceptable terms for the funding could be reached shortly.

The recommendations set out in the report were considered and agreed. A decision record is attached to these minutes.

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Chairman,

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	29 September 2020
<b>Title:</b>	A Progress Report of The County Council's Response to the COVID-19 Crisis
<b>Report From:</b>	Chief Executive

**Contact name:** John Coughlan

**Tel:** 01962 845252

**Email:** John.coughlan@hants.gov.uk

#### 1. The decision:

That Cabinet:

- 1.1. Note the contents of this report as a further summary of the exceptional events and responses by the County Council to the COVID-19 crisis, bearing in mind that this can only be a top-level assessment of what remains such a substantial and fast changing situation
- 1.2. Note in particular the additional developing initiatives that have been introduced since the most recent report including the further support to the wider care home sector, the preparations for the extended re-opening of schools in September, and the bedding in of the County Council's new responsibilities to the oversight of outbreak control through the Health Protection Board and the Leader led Local Outbreak Engagement Board as a sub-committee of the Cabinet.
- 1.3. Continue to recognise the on-going exceptional efforts of the staff of the County Council as the crisis has progressed.

#### 2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. To note the ongoing response to the Covid 19 crisis and recognise the exceptional efforts of all involved.

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

- 3.1. None.

#### 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: Not applicable

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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Chairman of Cabinet  
Councillor Keith Mans

29 September 2020



## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	29 September 2020
<b>Title:</b>	Financial Update
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Corporate Resources

**Contact name:** Carolyn Williamson

**Tel:** 01962 847400

**Email:** Carolyn.williamson@hants.gov.uk

#### 1. The decision:

That Cabinet:

- 1.1. Notes, with concern, the latest Covid-19 financial position compared to that reported to Cabinet in July.
- 1.2. Notes the additional urgent decision taken in respect of a second temporary mortuary as outlined in paragraph 24.
- 1.3. Delegates authority to the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources in consultation with the Leader and Chief Executive to allocate the additional £7.6m of grant funding as appropriate, together with any other future funding that may be announced.

#### 2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. To provide a further update on the financial position for the County Council in view of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

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

- 3.1. None.

#### 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: Not applicable

#### 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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Chairman of Cabinet  
Councillor Keith Mans

29 September 2020

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Executive Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	29 September 2020
<b>Title:</b>	Adults' Health and Care – Year 2 Strategy Progress
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Adults' Health and Care

**Contact name:** Graham Allen

**Tel:** 0370 779 5574

**Email:** Graham.allen@hants.gov.uk

#### 1. The decision:

##### 1.1. That Cabinet:

- a) Note and endorse the continued good progress made by Adults' Health and Care in the past year (year 2) against the Vision and 5 Year Strategy that was approved by Cabinet in April 2018.
- b) Acknowledge the key achievement examples referenced in section 2019/20 progress (paragraphs 24-35) of the report.
- c) Note the key work that is planned for 2020/21 (see section "the year ahead paragraphs 36-42), which, understandably is being heavily influenced by the on-going Covid-19 response and recovery.
- d) Note that updated Covid-19 proofed Market Position Statements will be finalised and published in the second half of 2020/21.

#### 2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. To provide Cabinet with an update on the continued progress made by Adults' Health and Care over 2019/20 (the 2<sup>nd</sup> year) in relation to the Departmental Vision and 5 Year Strategy that was approved by Cabinet in April 2018.

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

- 3.1. None

#### 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:

<b>Approved by:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
-----	29 September 2020
Chairman of Cabinet Councillor Keith Mans	

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Executive Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	29 September 2020
<b>Title:</b>	Climate Change Action Plan 2020-2025
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

**Contact name:** Chitra Nadarajah

**Tel:** **Email:** chitra.nadarajah@hants.gov.uk

#### 1. The decision:

That the Cabinet

- 1.1. Approves the Climate Change Action Plan 2020-2025 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report including the new section 'Framework for Strategic Programmes' set out in Appendix 2.
- 1.2. Approves the Carbon Hierarchy as set out in the Strategy as the key to our approach – 'Avoid, Reduce, Replace, Offset'.
- 1.3. Approves the proposed decision-making tools and how they will be used to assess the impact of decisions on carbon emissions and resilience to climate change.
- 1.4. Approves the proposed process for implementation, monitoring, review and reporting of the Action Plan.
- 1.5. Approves sharing the reports with relevant National ministries and Select Committees.

#### 2. Reason for the decision:

- 2.1. To uphold the commitment to develop a climate change Strategy and Action Plan following the County Council's declaration of a climate emergency in June 2019 and the endorsement of the 2050 Commission recommendations in September 2019.

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

- 3.1. Not to develop a Strategy and Action Plan following the climate emergency declaration.

**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:**

**Date:**

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**29 September 2020**

**Chairman of Cabinet  
Councillor Keith Mans**

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Executive Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	29 September 2020
<b>Title:</b>	Major Developments and Infrastructure Funding
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

**Contact name:** Stuart Jarvis

**Tel:** 01962 845260

**Email:** [stuart.jarvis@hants.gov.uk](mailto:stuart.jarvis@hants.gov.uk)

#### 1. The decision:

That the Cabinet agrees:

- 1.1. The principle of the County Council fully utilising existing provisions under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to secure the necessary infrastructure to mitigate the impact of development, including the cumulative impact of smaller developments.
- 1.2. That a corporate policy setting out the County Council's infrastructure and developer contribution requirements be developed based on the principles set out in the report and that authority be delegated to the Leader for final approval of the policy;
- 1.3. That a planning obligations monitoring fee be introduced as of 1 October 2020 to support the efficient monitoring and management of developer contribution funds and legal agreements.
- 1.4. That a corporate response to the white paper, 'Planning for the Future' and the consultation document 'Changes to the Current Planning System' be prepared along the lines set out in the report, with authority delegated to the Leader, in consultation with the Deputy Leader, for final approval and submission of the County Council's response.

#### 2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. To ensure that infrastructure funding is prioritised to deliver the improvements needed to mitigate against the impact of development and deliver necessary infrastructure, for the benefit of local communities.
- 2.2. To provide advice and guidance to both the local planning authorities and developers on infrastructure requirements to ensure that the infrastructure needed for new development, and to mitigate the impact of development on existing infrastructure, is secured and delivered for the residents of Hampshire.

2.3. To enable the County Council to effectively monitor planning obligations and ensure that all developer contributions are paid when required to support the capital programme and used to deliver essential public infrastructure.

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

3.1. The County Council could decide not to prioritise infrastructure funding however this option was rejected as it would be contrary to the County Council's Strategic Priorities, including to enable strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity and for people in Hampshire to enjoy being part of strong and inclusive communities.

3.2. The County Council could continue to provide guidance on a departmental basis, however this option was rejected as it is considered that a corporate approach would give local planning authorities and developers a better understanding of all the infrastructure the County Council requires and provide a sound policy basis for negotiations.

3.3. The County Council could choose not to introduce a planning obligations monitoring fee. However, this option was rejected as the revenue from doing so will enable the County Council to employ a dedicated resource to effectively monitor all planning obligations on a corporate basis and ensure that they are complied with.

**4. Conflicts of interest:**

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker:

Councillor Woodward declared a personal interest as Leader of a District Council.

Councillor Heron declared a personal interest as both a planning consultant and a member of a District Council

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:**

**Date:**

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**29 September 2020**

**Chairman of Cabinet  
Councillor Keith Mans**

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## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Executive Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	29 September 2020
<b>Title:</b>	Waterside Vision
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

**Contact name:** David Fletcher

**Tel:** 01962 846125

**Email:** david.fletcher@hants.gov.uk

#### 1. The decision:

- 1.1. That Cabinet approves the Waterside Vision statement.
- 1.2. That Cabinet authorises the Leader to sign the final published version of this statement on behalf of the County Council, in conjunction with the Leader of New Forest District Council and the Chair of the New Forest National Park Authority.

#### 2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. To demonstrate collective support of the local authorities for the Waterside regeneration.
- 2.2. To support the business case being developed for the proposed investment in transport infrastructure improvements.
- 2.3. To contribute to the confidence of private investors associated with the various elements of the overall Waterside regeneration.

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

- 3.1. The County Council does, of course, have the ability to endorse, in its own right, the Waterside regeneration. However, it is critical for both Central Government and for private investors to see tangible, collective support of all the relevant local authorities for the Waterside vision.

#### 4. Conflicts of interest:

- 4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker:

Councillor Heron declared a personal interest as both a planning consultant and a member of a District Council

- 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:

Date:

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29 September 2020

Chairman of Cabinet  
Councillor Keith Mans

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Executive Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	29 September 2020
<b>Title:</b>	M27 Junction 10 Scheme Update
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

**Contact:** Heather Walmsley

**Tel:** 01962 846089

**Email:** [heather.walmsley@hants.gov.uk](mailto:heather.walmsley@hants.gov.uk)

#### 1. The decision

- 1.1 That the Cabinet authorises the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment to suspend all ongoing development work on the M27 Motorway Junction 10 improvement scheme (“the Scheme”) if additional external funding for this work is not made available on reasonable terms and conditions to allow the work to continue beyond September 2020.
- 1.2 That the Cabinet agrees that following any suspension of work on development of the Scheme, the County Council will reallocate or stand down project resources and relinquish its current role as Scheme Promoter, if additional external funding for further scheme development is not received within a month following the suspension of activities.
- 1.3 That the Cabinet approves a change in the approach of the County Council as Scheme Promoter to formally review its continued role on the Scheme to follow the completion of Stage 3 of Highways England’s approval process, rather than following completion of the Full Business Case stage.

#### 2. Reasons for the decision

- 2.1 The County Council has been Scheme Promoter leading on all design, development, and business case work for the Scheme since January 2018 following a request at that time by Chris Grayling, the then Secretary of State for Transport. The Scheme is substantial in scale and complexity, being the highest value single transport scheme ever progressed by the County Council. Progress to date has been significant, but has been complicated by

the parallel work of Highways England's Smart Motorways Programme; and ongoing development and delivery funding issues.

- 2.2 All work on the Scheme to date has been funded through the Department for Transport's retained funding element within the Solent LEP Local Growth Fund. In line with the agreed County Council position in taking on the Scheme Promoter role, there has been no cost to the County Council. Current development funding is set to run out in September 2020. On 15 September 2020 the Solent LEP Board formally confirmed that they had considered a request from the County Council as Scheme Promoter for up to £900,000 to fund the completion of development work up to Stage 3 of the Highways England Project Control Framework process for M27 Junction 10, by the end of March 2021. A full understanding of the conditions associated with this funding are awaited and as such this proposal seeks a mandate for the County Council to initially suspend and then to relinquish its role as Scheme Promoter and to stop work on the Scheme should the conditions prove unacceptable or no other additional external funding is made available within a reasonable period and on acceptable terms. If the conditions for the Solent LEP development funding are acceptable, then future work can progress within a framework of deliverables up to a specified break point, and Cabinet is asked to agree to this new break or review point for the work going forward.

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

- 3.1 To continue to progress the design and development work for the Scheme without confirmation of external funding would be the most pragmatic way of getting the Scheme to a point it can be delivered to help facilitate the wider development of Welborne Garden Village in the shortest possible timescale. However, without third party funding in place to enable the continuation of this work, the County Council would need to underwrite the costs, which is against its agreed policy for involvement at Welborne, and for which no funding is identified or in place. Therefore, to proceed without identified third party funding on acceptable conditions, is not considered a viable or appropriate way forward. The option of accepting funding on any conditions was also considered, and rejected as this could place unreasonable financial, outcome or work programme obligations on the County Council.

### **4. Conflicts of interest:**

- 4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker:

Councillor Woodward declared a personal interest as Leader of Fareham Borough Council and left the meeting before the decision was taken.

- 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:**

In reaching this decision, Cabinet noted that positive engagement was underway with the Solent LEP with regards their funding offer and that it was hoped that mutually acceptable terms for the funding could be reached shortly, in which case the decisions at 1.1 and 1.2 would no longer be relevant and therefore would not be implemented.

**Approved by:**

**Date:**

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**29 September 2020**

**Chairman of Cabinet  
Councillor Keith Mans**

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