

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Executive Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	29 November 2010
<b>Title:</b>	Flood and Water Management Act 2010
<b>Reference:</b>	2280
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Environment

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#### 1. The decision:

- a) That a County Council-led, inter-authority, strategic coordinating officer group be established to oversee key workstreams arising from the Flood and Water Management Act.
- b) That a report on the Flood and Water Management Act duties be taken to a future meeting of the Hampshire Senate.
- c) That a general workshop/briefing be arranged for County Council Members, leading Members from the Districts, representatives of the Hampshire Association for Local Councils and the South Downs and New Forest National Park Authorities early in 2011.
- d) That the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment be commended for pre-scrutiny to the County Council's Environment and Transportation Select Committee before being formally signed off by the Executive Member for Environment and submitted to the Environment Agency.
- e) That County Council representation be reviewed for the new Regional Flood and Coastal Committees covering the Hampshire area, which will assume a more executive role in 2011.
- f) That Parish Councils and community groups be encouraged to make emergency plans to mitigate the effects of flooding, severe weather and other emergencies obtaining advice from the County Emergency Planning Officer if necessary.

## **2. Reasons for the decision:**

- 2.1. To provide a joined-up response to the Flood and Water Management Act in Hampshire led by the Lead Local Flood Authority, and to manage the risks associated with Hampshire's Flood Risk Management Authorities operating separately on linked workstreams.
- 2.2. To ensure that the Hampshire-wide partnership is appropriately briefed on the Act and engaged at the political level.
- 2.3. To meet the requirements of the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) guidelines and to ensure appropriate Member involvement in the sign-off process before its submission to the Environment Agency, and the European Union thereafter.
- 2.4. To ensure that the County Council is able to make a consistent and robust case to the Environment Agency on its Levy proposals, expenditure and strategy through appropriate representation on the new Regional Flood and Coastal Committees.

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

- 3.1. Engagement with partners and other Flood Risk Management Authorities at an operational level only. This option was considered and rejected on the grounds that the various workstreams arising from the Act require strategic coordination from Flood Risk Management Authorities.
- 3.2. Executive sign-off of the PFRA only, either by the Cabinet or the Executive Member of the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA). This option was considered and rejected on the grounds that scrutiny of the PFRA will add value to the development of the eventual Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and is considered best practice.

## **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 Standards Committee: 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>Chairman of the Cabinet Councillor T K Thornber CBE</b>	<b>Date:</b>  <b>29 November 2010</b>
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