

**HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****Executive Decision Record**

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member – Economic Development and Rural Affairs
<b>Date:</b>	12 April 2011
<b>Title:</b>	Grants to Business Support Organisations
<b>Reference:</b>	2758
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

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**1. The decision:**

1.1. That the award of grants to the following business support organisations in 2011/12 be approved:

- |       |                                  |          |
|-------|----------------------------------|----------|
| (i)   | Hampshire Fare                   | £35,000  |
| (ii)  | Sustainable Business Partnership | £15,000  |
| (iii) | Enterprise First                 | £15,000  |
| (iv)  | Hampshire Economic Partnership   | £10,000. |

1.2. That the grant recipients be advised that they should not assume that County Council grant funding will continue to be available beyond the current financial year for the purposes of future financial planning.

**2. Reason for the decision:**

2.1. To provide financial support to a range of business support organisations in Hampshire which provide direct assistance to small businesses and to business start-ups.

2.2. The County Council has the power under the Local Government Act 2000 to do anything that is likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of an area. In particular, S.2(4) of the Act enables the County Council to enter into arrangements or agreements with any person, and give financial assistance, for these purposes. Guidance power can be used to contribute funding to groups and bodies/organisations if the authority is satisfied that this contributes to the economic social or environmental wellbeing of its area. This is considered to

be the case here, where the financial provision will help to stimulate business start-up and business growth, enhancing the organisation's ability to support the Economic Development aims and objectives of the County Council.

**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 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>Executive Member for Economic Development and Rural Affairs Councillor R J Ellis</b>	<b>Date:</b>  <b>12 April 2011</b>
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