

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Cabinet
Date:	27 June 2011
Title:	Solar Photovoltaic
Reference:	3014
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services, Director of Economy, Transport and Environment and County Treasurer

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1. The decision:

- a) That the Directors of Culture, Communities and Business Services and Economy, Transport and Environment be authorised to commence the procurement of and consider the award of multiple contracts, if appropriate, for a large scale solar photovoltaic project.
- b) That approval, in principle, be given for a first phase of about 25% of the total to be implemented by 31 March 2012 so as to maximise the benefits of the current Feed in Tariffs available, subject to approval of the detailed business case and the addition of the project to the Council's Capital Programme.
- c) That the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services be authorised to initiate any necessary statutory consent procedures or any other processes to enable works to proceed once financial approvals are in place.
- d) That the Directors of Culture, Communities and Business Services and Economy, Transport and Environment, together with the County Treasurer, present a more detailed business case to Cabinet to support a recommendation to County Council for the potential inclusion of the project in the Capital Programme.
- e) That the Cabinet advises officers of its preferred energy strategy and invites the Directors of Culture, Communities and Business Services and Economy, Transport and Environment to present a report prepared on this basis to a future Cabinet meeting, and re-affirms the County Council's and its schools commitment to green energy and reducing our energy needs by 20% by 2015

and 3% PV savings in phase one, without prejudice to the Energy Strategy for the County Council.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. To assist the County Council to become more energy self-sufficient, reducing vulnerability to energy price rises and supply issues, whilst reducing the Council's carbon footprint.
- 2.2. To enable the County Council to create income from and avoid costs by generating its own electricity.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. Take no action – whilst this is an option it would not contribute to the County Council's carbon reduction targets, nor would it reduce the energy costs, nor provide any resilience of supply.
- 3.2. Private Sector owned and operated – would result in a reduction in the County Council's carbon footprint and energy costs but income would be substantially reduced compared to the County Council owned and operated model, and there would be unacceptable restrictions on the ability of the County Council to manage its estate.

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:

- 6.1 As this was a Key Decision the requirements of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access To Information) (England) (Amended Regulations 2002) Regulation 15 - Key Decisions have been complied with, a notice having been sent to the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Select Committee on 3 June 2011 and public notice having been given on 17 June 2011.

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by:

Date:

27 June 2011

**Chairman of the Cabinet
Councillor T K Thornber, CBE**