

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Executive Decision Record**

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Environment and Transport
Date:	24 January 2013
Title:	Andover Bus Station
Reference:	4423
Report From:	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

Contact name: Andrew Wilson

Tel: 01962 846984

Email: andrew.wilson@hants.gov.uk

1. The decision:

1.1. That authority be delegated to the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment, in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment and Transport, the Head of Legal Services and the County Treasurer to conclude legal agreements between the County Council, Test Valley Borough Council and Friends Life that will put in place the permissions required to build the new Andover Bus Station and guarantee its future maintenance.

1.2. That a further allocation of £500,000 of transport developer contributions collected in the Andover area be directed to the project, as a result of

- the scope of the project being varied during negotiations between the County Council and Test Valley Borough Council in order to produce a viable and deliverable project; and
- construction cost inflationary increases due to the unanticipated time delay whilst legal negotiations were ongoing.

2. Reasons for the decision:

2.1 Legal agreements between the County Council, Test Valley Borough Council and Friends Life need to be signed before the construction phase of the project can commence. Approval is sought to conclude the necessary agreements.

2.2 There is currently insufficient funding approved to cover the cost of the project and further transport developer contributions are required to be allocated to the project to ensure delivery.

2.3 The Andover Bus Station enhancement project forms a core part of the Town Access Plan and is integral to the town's transport strategy. Major development around the town will add extra bus service provision and create more pressure on an already constrained bus station. There is no additional capacity to accommodate these services in the existing bus station.

2.4 The new bus station will create a much improved visual gateway to the town centre and contribute to the regeneration of the area by improving pedestrian links between the town centre and Andover College, the Lights Theatre and Andover Leisure Centre. The project will also integrate the Shopmobility service and the Test Valley Community Services offices into the bus station to the benefit of local residents. The new café will create an area where people will spend time rather than simply pass through. This will help to attract more people into the town centre shopping area and will help boost trade for the businesses within the Chantry Centre.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1. The funding level could be limited to the approved sum of £2.4 million. This would mean that the scope of the project would have to be limited and some items would have to be removed. Sufficient developer funding for transport schemes is available in Andover and the funding can be accommodated within the Economy, Transport and Environment Department Transport Programme to deliver all aspects of the scheme.

3.2. Not to conclude the legal agreements is not a viable option because without the necessary legal agreements in place, the project cannot proceed to construction.

4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1. The Executive Member for Policy and Resources declared a pecuniary interest in this item, took no part in the discussion and left the room.

4.2. In accordance with Paragraph 2.3 of Part 3 of the County Council's Constitution, the Leader deputed Councillor Mel Kendal (Executive Member for Environment and Transport) to take this decision on his behalf.

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:

24 January 2013

**Councillor Mel Kendal
Executive Member for Environment and Transport
(on behalf of the Executive Member for Policy and
Resources)**

Decn/4423/AW