

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside
Date:	4 December 2013
Title:	Management of Common Land at Yateley
Reference:	5392
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

Contact name: Kerriann McLackland

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1. The decision:

That the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside:

- a) Approves for an application to be submitted for Planning Inspectorate consent for the proposed fencing and other infrastructure at Yateley Common.
- b) Approves the case for minor adjustments to be made to the plans as currently identified to either meet the needs of individual residential access points or to follow best practice in any relevant issue such as gate selection for equestrian access.

2. Reason(s) for the decision:

- 2.1 The fencing of Yateley Common is required to enable the re-introduction of grazing on the common. Grazing will significantly enhance the management of this internationally important lowland heath. As this site is a Common, consent will be required from the Planning Inspectorate for any works and therefore Executive Member approval is sought to proceed with an application for that consent. Local Members and the local management advisory committee have supported the proposals.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1 Grazing is one of a range of management tools considered for managing the common and was the favoured option of the public when put out to consultation alongside controlled burning, mechanical cutting and turf-stripping. In addition to having the most public support, it is also the

preferred officer option in terms of ecological benefits, management efficiency and overall effectiveness.

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:

In reaching this decision, I have taken into account all of the information placed before me, including written submissions from members of the public and deputations made at my Decision Day by the following individuals:

Caroline Smith-Senior
Maureen Comber
Sarah Palmer
Lucy Hobden

Approved by:

Date:

4 December 2013

**Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and
Countryside
Councillor Keith Chapman**