

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment
Date:	1 April 2014
Title:	Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan Implementation and Monitoring Partnership Agreement
Reference:	5429
Report From:	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

Contact name: Melissa Spriggs

Tel: 01962 846330

Email: melissa.spriggs@hants.gov.uk

1. Executive Summary

1.1. The purpose of this paper is to guide the decision making on whether Hampshire County Council should continue in partnership with Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council, and New Forest National Park Authority (with discussions on-going with the South Downs National Park Authority) to implement and monitor the recently adopted Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan.

1.2. This paper seeks to:

- set out a background to the current partnership;
- consider the financial and resource implications of continuing the partnership; and
- outline the remit of the partnership.

2. Contextual information

2.1. Preparing a minerals and waste plan is a statutory requirement placed on Minerals and Waste Planning Authorities (MWPAs) by Government to enable the sustainable delivery of minerals and waste development in their administrative area.

2.2. Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council, the New Forest National Park Authority and the South Downs National Park Authority (hereafter referred to as the "Hampshire Authorities") are, individually, MWPAs. However, they have hitherto worked together in partnership to produce a plan for all minerals and waste development in Hampshire – the Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan (HMWP).

- 2.3. The HMWP covers the administrative areas of the five partner authorities. It only includes the part of the South Downs National Park which falls within Hampshire.
- 2.4. The partnership was originally set up to prepare the Hampshire Minerals & Waste Development Framework in 2004 with Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth City Council and Southampton City Council being the founding members. The New Forest National Park Authority joined the partnership on 1 April 2006 at which point the Hampshire Minerals & Waste Core Strategy was in its final stages of preparation and was adopted in 2007.
- 2.5. The SDNPA joined the partnership in 2011 and all five partner authorities have worked in partnership, with Hampshire County Council as lead Authority, to produce the HMWP which was adopted on 15 October 2013.
- 2.6. The current partnership arrangement was due to end at adoption of the HMWP. However, the Hampshire Authorities have a joint statutory duty to implement and monitor the HMWP. The partnership also contributes to meeting the requirement placed on minerals and waste planning authorities under the Duty to Co-operate by liaising with neighbouring authorities.
- 2.7. As such it is necessary to make arrangements for the partnership beyond adoption and to ensure implementation and monitoring of the HMWP.
- 2.8. A Partnership Agreement has been drawn up for partners to sign which seeks to formalise the arrangements for joint working to implement and monitor the HMWP.

3. Finance

- 3.1. Financial contributions were agreed at the start of the initial partnership with Hampshire County Council contributing 70% of the finances and Southampton City Council and Portsmouth City Council contributing 14% and 12% respectively. When the New Forest National Park Authority joined the partnership in 2007, its financial contribution was set at 4%. Each contribution was calculated on the population of the administrative areas. Initially, Planning Delivery Grants were used to help finance contributions, however, these were later phased out.
- 3.2. When South Downs National Park Authority joined the partnership in 2011, it provided a set financial contribution of £54,021 which was based on 15% of the original budget and included its proportion of the estimated Public Examination costs (estimated at £110k at that time). The contribution was based on area rather than population.
- 3.3. To date, both Southampton City Council and South Downs National Park Authority have paid their contributions in lump sums whilst Portsmouth City Council and New Forest National Park Authority have made annual payments. This combination of different means of contributing to the

partnership is a less than ideal situation and now is an opportune time to simplify and formalise arrangements.

- 3.4. Following adoption of the HMWP, activities will be focused on implementing and monitoring the Plan. As such, projected annual partnership costs will need to take the following activities into consideration:

Annual monitoring and reporting - monitoring and reporting of all permitted mineral and waste sites; monitoring of the policies in the HMWP and reporting of findings (as required by its Implementation and Monitoring Plan).

Local Aggregate Assessment for the HMWP - Annual assessment of Hampshire's aggregate supply and demand to support the HMWP as required by the National Planning Policy Framework.

Aggregates Monitoring - Annual assessment of Hampshire's aggregate sites, supply and demand as required by the South East England Aggregate Working Party.

Partnership representation at local and regional advice groups e.g. the South East Waste Planning Advisory Group.

Mineral Consultation Area (preparation/distribution and enquiries).

Duty to Cooperate (responses and enquiries to MWPA's).

Plan implementation documentation including the preparation of Supplementary Planning Documents.

- 3.5. Should a review of the Plan be required, the cost could only be determined once the extent of the review is fully understood following monitoring of the existing Plan policies and site allocations. As such, it is proposed that this would be considered as a separate project and would require a revised (or separate) Partnership Agreement and budget.
- 3.6. A detailed review of activities 1 to 7 above has led to a projected collective total of £94,929.11 for 2014/15, which would be split proportionally between the partners.
- 3.7. A number of options for determining contribution levels were considered, including a continuation of the same, area, population, and a combination comprising (i) population, (ii) the number of new minerals and waste sites allocated within the Plan, and (iii) the scale of future development expected. However, these were rejected by the partners due to fact they did not reflect a fair balance of issues and considerations for each partner. The final agreed figures were based on a combination of population and area and resulted in the following contributions for 2014/15:
- Hampshire County Council = £72,146.12 (76%)
Portsmouth City Council = £7,594.33 (8%)
Southampton City Council = £7,594.33 (8%)
New Forest National Park Authority = £7,594.33 (8%)
- 3.8. Should the South Downs National Park Authority wish to join the partnership, it is expected that they would also contribute £7,594.33 (8%) for 2014/15. This would result in Hampshire County Council's contribution for 2014/15 lowering to £64,551.79 (68%). However, discussions are currently on-going.

- 3.9. To address the issue of regularity of payments, it is proposed that partners pay their annual contribution at the start of each financial year for the implementation and monitoring of the Plan. The contributions will be reviewed each year and amended if required to ensure that the total accurately represents the work undertaken.

4. Performance

- 4.1. Historically, Hampshire County Council has undertaken the lead role in the partnership including leading on the Plan preparation work, representing the partnership at local and national meetings/forums and carrying out the implementation and monitoring work necessary to inform the Plan. The County Council has also managed the finances of the partnership with the other partners providing financial contributions. The partners have also provided Officer (and Member) input where required and in the case of the New Forest National Park Authority, officer time has been provided in lieu of financial contributions. This arrangement will continue under the Partnership Agreement.
- 4.2. A review will be undertaken each year on the financial contributions and projected work programme for the partnership. This may lead to an increase or decrease in contributions and/or the need for more partner officer time in lieu of payment.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1. That Hampshire County Council establishes a new Partnership Agreement with Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council and New Forest National Park Authority to implement and monitor the recently adopted Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan (2013).
- 5.2. That Hampshire County Council continues to fund the partnership jointly (including a financial contribution for 2014/15 of £72,146.12 with partners contributing £7,584.33 each), as part of a total fund of £94,929.11, which will be reviewed and amended each year to ensure the total amount accurately represents the work undertaken.
- 5.3. That Hampshire County Council remains the lead authority undertaking the majority of the implementation and monitoring work for the Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan on behalf of the partners, with support from partner officers where required.
- 5.4. That authority be delegated to the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment to conclude the final terms of the Partnership Agreement with the Head of Legal Services, including any variations to the terms above, in consultation with the Executive Member for Economy, Transport, and Environment.

- 5.5. That authority be delegated to the Director of Economy, Transport, and Environment to include the South Downs National Park Authority within the final agreement if requested, subject to suitable terms being agreed based on the approach set out in the report.

Rpt/5429/MS

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	No
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	Yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	Yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan	5198	19 September 2013
Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan	4965	22 July 2013
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives		
<u>Title</u>		<u>Date</u>
National Planning Policy Framework Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 as amended		27 March 2012 2009

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan (2013)	Winchester

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

- 1.1 The proposals in this report have been developed with due regard to the requirements of the Equality Act 2010, including the Public Sector Equality Duty and the Council's equality objectives. The website contains a summary [assessment of the impacts](http://documents.hants.gov.uk/equality-impact-assessments/ete/delivering-infrastructure.doc) on <http://documents.hants.gov.uk/equality-impact-assessments/ete/delivering-infrastructure.doc>
- 1.2 It is considered that the issues covered by this report will not have impacts requiring further specific actions by the Council above those already established in its existing policies and working procedures.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

- 2.1. None.

3. Climate Change:

- 3.1. How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

Sustainable minerals and waste development contributes to the reduction of the carbon footprint of Hampshire and, therefore, implementation and monitoring of the HMWP will help to enable this.

- 3.2. How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

The HMWP and the allocations contained have been subject to Integrated Sustainability Appraisal to ensure that they contribute to mitigation of, and adaptation to climate change, and therefore implementation and monitoring will help to enable this.