

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Executive Decision Record**

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

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1. The decision:

- 1.1. 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).
- 1.2. 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.
- 1.3. 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.
- 1.4. 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.
- 1.5. 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.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council, New Forest National Park Authority, and South Downs National Park Authority have worked together in partnership to develop minerals and waste policy for a number of years, the original partnership forming in 2004 with some of the members joining subsequent to this. This partnership approach led to the adoption of the Hampshire Minerals & Waste Core Strategy in 2007 and more recently the Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan in October 2013. The partnership has helped to deliver a high quality, cost-effective public service by reducing duplication and sharing services.
- 2.2. Each partner has historically contributed resources to the partnership with Hampshire County Council taking the lead in plan preparation. However, provision was only made for the partnership and contributions to continue up until the time of adoption of the Plan. It has been acknowledged by the partners that they have a statutory obligation to implement and monitor the adopted Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan. Southampton City Council, Portsmouth City Council, and the New Forest National Park Authority have agreed that they wish the partnership to continue in order to implement and monitor the Plan. Therefore, a Partnership Agreement has been drawn up collectively to formalise this partnership going forward. Discussions with the South Downs National Park Authority are on-going and they are not precluded from joining the partnership at a later date. Implementing and monitoring the Plan will help to promote economic prosperity and protect the environment by ensuring an adequate and steady supply of minerals for the delivery and maintenance of infrastructure and the sustainable management of waste.
- 2.3. Contributions made by partners to-date have been based on either population or area. Now that the partnership is being formally reviewed, the opportunity is being taken to both simplify and formalise the nature and extent of the partners' contributions based on a mid-level between area and population. This approach has been agreed by the partner authorities. The revised contribution levels will help to deliver a high quality, cost-effective public service by saving the County Council money and making best use of the resources available.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. Each partner authority individually has a statutory duty to implement and monitor the Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan. While the partnership could come to an end, each partner would still need to carry out this duty. Realistically the cost of liaising with neighbouring and other relevant minerals and waste planning authorities, splitting the sand and gravel apportionment, and analysing the capacity for managing Hampshire's waste, would be expensive for each authority to do individually and certainly more than the overall costs associated with continuing the partnership approach.

3.2. Different contribution percentages were considered and rejected by the partners due to fact they did not reflect a fair balance of issues and considerations for each partner. The following options were considered:

continuing the same contribution levels (area or population);

area only;

population only; and

a combination of population, the number of new minerals and waste sites allocated within the Plan, and the scale of future development expected.

3.3. The current partnership agreement is for implementing and monitoring the adopted Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan only. It has been agreed by the partners that any future review of the Plan, which would be a substantial piece of work, would be subject to a separate agreement and funding contributions. This allows partners to commit to a relatively small contribution level for the purposes of implementing and monitoring the Plan at this stage.

4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker:

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted:

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: ----- Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment Councillor Seán D T Woodward	Date: 1 April 2014
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