

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Executive Decision Record**

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside
Date:	15 May 2014
Title:	Countryside Access Strategy and Rights of Way Investment Plan
Reference:	5789
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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1. The decision:

a) That the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside:

- i) Endorses the proposed approach and supports the key aims to:
 - Understand and respond to the needs of our customers.
 - Work with others to provide a safe, well managed countryside access network which meets both current and future need.
 - Encourage and support people to feel welcome and confident in using the countryside responsibly.
- ii) Approves the outline capital programme for 2014-2017 and the specific capital expenditure plan of £210,000 for 2014-15 which will tackle urgent practical works and support the development of the Access Strategy.
- iii) Supports the preparation of, and consultation on, the detailed Countryside Access Strategy to be developed and presented to the Executive Member in the latter part of 2014.
- iv) Requests that the Culture and Communities Select Committee considers establishing a task and finish group to support the development of the strategy and the consultation underpinning it

2. Reason(s) for the decision:

2.1 The development of a Countryside Access Strategy for Hampshire together with a 3 year capital investment programme, will ensure that the County Council is able to continue to provide a high quality network of public access

across the County, which meets the needs of the public and the requirements of the law.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1 Do nothing. The County Council could continue to carry out its functions without reviewing its long-term strategy. This would increase the risk of a significant decline in the quality and usability of the Countryside Access Network in Hampshire, as the service would not be in a position to adapt its approach in the face of declining resources or changing public priorities.

4. Conflicts of interest:

- 4.1. 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:

Approved by:	Date:
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Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside Councillor Keith Chapman	