

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Executive Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment
<b>Date:</b>	11 July 2014
<b>Title:</b>	Project Appraisal: Hambledon Phase 2 Flood Alleviation
<b>Reference:</b>	5871
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

**Contact name:** Simon Cramp

**Tel:** 01962 832348

**Email:** simon.cramp@hants.gov.uk

#### 1. The decision:

- 1.1 That approval be given to procure and spend and enter into necessary contractual arrangements to implement the proposed flood alleviation scheme at Hambledon, as set out in the supporting report, up to the value of £3.89M.
- 1.2 That authority to make the arrangements to implement the scheme, including variations to the design or contract, be delegated to the Director of Economy, Transport, and Environment in consultation with the Executive Member for Economy, Transport, and Environment.

#### 2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1 Hambledon suffered damaging and prolonged flooding this winter causing major disruption to the community, properties, and businesses, the closure of the main roads through the village and inundation of the foul sewer system. More extensive damage and disruption was only averted by the combined efforts of the County Council, Emergency Services, Armed Services, Winchester City Council, Hambledon Parish Council, Southern Water and the local Flood Action Group. The village has a long history of groundwater flooding such as this with events, prior to this year, occurring in 2012/2013, 2002/2003, 2000/ 2001, 1994/1995 and in the 1960s.
- 2.2 During a flooding event the roads become the watercourses for long periods in the winter and properties alongside East Street, West Street, and Green Lane suffer from sustained flooding as a result. This also has an effect on the condition of the road surfaces which have deteriorated significantly in recent years. The road is in need of extensive rehabilitation. The flow of ground water like this can last for many weeks having a profound effect on the community.

2.3 Hampshire's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy ranks the Hambledon, Droxford, and Soberton Ward as being at the highest risk of groundwater flooding. A feasibility study was therefore prepared and gave consideration to options for flood alleviation measures for Hambledon. The study made an assessment of previous reports on flooding at Hambledon, and consulted with representatives of the local community, officers from the County Council, Winchester City Council, and Environment Agency.

2.4 Completion of the overall scheme as set out in the supporting report would provide substantial benefits in:

- reducing damage, disruption and costs to homes, businesses and infrastructure;
- reducing levels of distress to residents caused by flooding;
- reducing maintenance liabilities and operational demands during flooding events;
- providing an open highway during a flooding event;
- providing a more efficient method of maintaining the drainage system which is faster to react and safer in flood conditions; and
- enhancing public safety and community resilience.

2.5 Approval of the scheme will contribute towards the Corporate Strategy and in particular the Local Transport Plan 3 Priorities and Policy Objectives, including:

- supporting economic growth by ensuring the safety, soundness and efficiency of the transport network in Hampshire;
- providing a safe, well maintained, and more resilient road network in Hampshire;
- managing traffic to maximise the efficiency of existing network capacity, improving journey time reliability and reducing emissions, to support the efficient and sustainable movement of people and goods; and
- supporting community transport provision to maintain a 'safety net' of basic access to services.

2.6 Approval of the scheme will also contribute towards:

- the Solent and South Downs Catchment Flood Management Plan;
- Hampshire County Council's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy; and
- Groundwater Surface Water Management Plan for Hampshire.

## **2. Other options considered and rejected:**

3.1 One other option was considered to have some merit and was therefore assessed. However, this approach, which involved re-building roadways at a lower level to improve the carrying capacity of the highway for surface water, was rejected on the basis of the detrimental impact on access to and

within the village, comparatively poorer cost benefit figures, and higher residual maintenance liabilities.

**3. Conflicts of interest:**

3.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None.

3.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None.

**4. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.**

**5. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.**

**6. Statement from the Decision Maker:**

In reaching this decision I have taken into account the deputation from Mr Neil Mason of the Flood Action Group of Hambledon.

<b>Approved by:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
-----	<b>11 July 2014</b>
<b>Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment</b> <b>Councillor Seán D T Woodward</b>	

