

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside
Date:	16 July 2015
Title:	Finalising "Hampshire Countryside Access Plan 2015-2025"
Reference:	6728
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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1. The decision:

That the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside:

- i) Notes the public consultation responses.
- ii) Approves the final Hampshire Countryside Access Plan 2015-2025 for publication.

2. Reason(s) for the decision:

- 2.1. The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 placed a duty on Highway Authorities to publish and review a Rights of Way Improvement Plan. Statutory Guidance was provided by Defra in 2002, which remains in force. In 2008 Hampshire County Council fulfilled this duty by publishing its Countryside Access Plans.
- 2.2. The 2008 plan has reached the end of its term. In summer 2014, following a request from the Executive Member, the Culture and Communities Select Committee established a task and finish group to support officers as they carried out the necessary research to prepare a new plan for consideration. A comprehensive needs assessment was subsequently carried out and a revised plan was drafted for consideration by both the Executive Member and the Culture and Communities Select Committee in January 2015. Approval was given for a public consultation on the draft Countryside Access Plan 2015-2025, and the Plan was endorsed pending the outcome of the consultation.
- 2.3. The 2015-2025 Plan responds to priorities identified through the needs assessment.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1. Not updating the Countryside Access Plan.

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:

Approved by:	Date:
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Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside Councillor Andrew Gibson	