

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Cabinet
Date:	27 September 2010
Title:	Partnership for Urban South Hampshire Business Plan 2010-12
Reference:	2011
Report From:	Director of Environment

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1. The decision:

1.1 The Cabinet agreed that the Plan could not be recommended to County Council and made it clear that the Cabinet had serious reservations about several aspects of the Plan, specifically:

- that the Plan is not representative of the current financial and economic situation and is therefore fundamentally flawed
- that the economic growth projections are totally unrealistic in the current financial and economic climate, based on an aspirational target of 3.5% - indeed the emerging PUSH Economic Strategy has a significantly different range of targets
- that the Plan lacks clarity in regard to delivery capacity, particularly in the light of the current spending climate
- that the Plan also lacked clarity on areas of potential overlap and duplication in respect of the roles of existing authorities and PUSH
- that the Plan does not take a sufficiently broad or comprehensive approach to the critical issues on provision for housing – e.g. it failed to address the question of meeting the housing needs of an ageing population, including the provision of extra care housing

1.2 Therefore:

- (a) the Cabinet did not approve the Partnership's aspiration to become a Local Enterprise Partnership in its own right, but instead leaves open the possibility of continuing to work in partnership with PUSH under a Hampshire-wide or 'South Central' LEP;
- (b) given the Cabinet's decision on 26 July 2010 to review spending across all areas of business following severe cuts in Government spending already announced and to follow in the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR), and the possible establishment of a LEP, that notice be given to the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (as required by the Partnership's constitution) that the County Council's funding will cease after 31 March 2011. The County Council will continue to work with partners on Transport for South Hampshire problems and other matters with each of the Member Authorities of PUSH; and
- (c) the Cabinet expects that a revised Business Plan will be published for 2011 which will appropriately reflect the scale of Government spending reductions and policy changes affecting both the Partnership and its partners, and addressing the specific concerns raised by the Cabinet.

2. Reason for the decision:

- 2.1. The County Council is a member of the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH). PUSH's constitution requires that its Business Plan is separately approved by each member authority; and also that notice of any change to funding commitments be given six months in advance of the financial year.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. Not to bring forward the Business Plan for consideration. This would conflict with the County Council's responsibilities as a member of PUSH.

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 Standards Committee: none.

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

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by:

Date:

27 September 2010

**Chairman of the Cabinet
Councillor T K Thornber CBE**

Decn/2011/JS