

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Cabinet
Date:	26 July 2010
Title:	County Council Services in Support of the Armed Forces in Hampshire
Decision Reference:	1807
Report From:	Chief Executive

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1. The decision:

1.1 That recognition be given to:

- a) the importance of the contributions made by the Armed Forces to life in Hampshire and;
- b) the need for effective joint working to enable the County Council to provide strong support services for serving personnel (including reservists), their families and veterans.

1.2 That approval be given to the three-stage approach set out in the supporting report to enhance the support provided and the Chief Executive be authorised to:

- a) implement further early improvements to County Council services in support of the Armed Forces,
- b) make support services more accessible through the operation of the Welfare Pathway Pilot with the Armed Forces, Welfare and Benevolent Organisations and other partners, and
- c) establish a joint County Council / Military Delivery Board to:
 - i) oversee strategic/long-term planning and decision making in the operation of the Armed Forces in Hampshire and the support services provided by the County Council,
 - ii) identify, resource and deliver short term joint County Council/military projects,
 - iii) assemble, design and manage joint construction projects to improve support facilities and services and,

- iv) that Councillor David Kirk, the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services be appointed as the County Council's lead representative on the Delivery Board.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. Close ties have existed between the County Council, the Armed Forces and their support services and charities for many years and this decision seeks to build on these relationships, provide more efficient planning and delivery of support services and extend this support by jointly developing projects with the Armed Forces and their partner organisations.
- 2.2. This decision also links to the three aims of the corporate strategy; Hampshire safer and more secure for all; maximising wellbeing, and; enhancing our quality of place.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. Not to improve joint working with the Armed Forces. This was rejected as the County Council is the principal provider of services which contribute to providing a stable and supported base for the Armed Forces community. It will be highly important for the County Council to provide strong and effective support in the short/medium terms whilst personnel continue to be deployed in combat zones abroad.

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:

26 July 2010

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